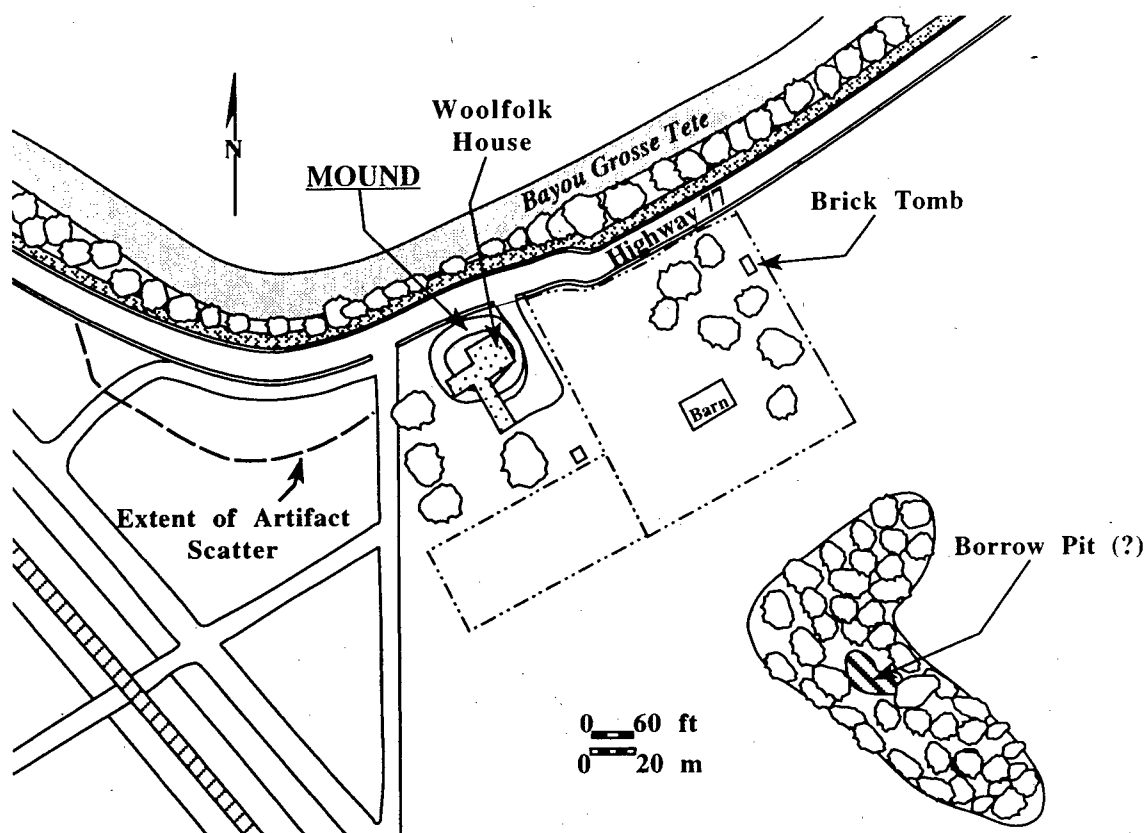




U.S. Army Corps  
of Engineers

New Orleans District

## CULTURAL RESOURCES EVALUATION OF THE UPPER ATCHAFALAYA BACKWATER AREA, IBERVILLE AND POINTE COUPEE PARISHES, SOUTH LOUISIANA



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FINAL REPORT  
MAY 2001

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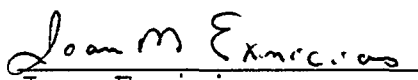
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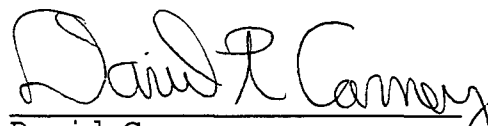
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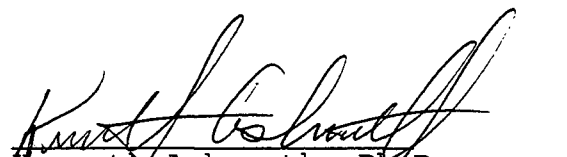
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To The Reader:

This cultural resource effort was designed and guided by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, as part of our cultural resource management program. We concur with the authors' recommendations regarding future cultural resources investigations. The Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer, also concurs with the authors' conclusions and recommendations.

  
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OF THE UPPER ATCHAFALAYA BACKWATER AREA, IBERVILLE AND  
POINTE COUPEE PARISHES, SOUTH LOUISIANA**

**Final Report**

**by**

**Douglas C. Wells**

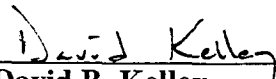
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Principal Investigator**



## ABSTRACT

The results of cultural resources investigations conducted by Coastal Environments, Inc., in the Upper Atchafalaya Backwater Area of southeast Louisiana are presented. The research was carried out under contract to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District in relation to the Lower Atchafalaya Basin Reevaluation Study. The study area encompassed about 335 mi<sup>2</sup> (539 km<sup>2</sup>) and included portions of Iberville and Pointe Coupee parishes, specifically focusing on spoil areas for proposed dredging. The areas of potential impact included 500 foot right-of-ways on either side of Bayou Maringouin, Bayou Grosse Tete, Choctaw Bayou, Portage Canal, and Lighthouse Canal. In that large natural levee formations were the landforms with the highest probability of cultural resources, Bayous Maringouin and Grosse Tete were the foci of the sample survey. The first phase of the study involved the development of a research design that summarized existing information on the geomorphology, ecology, history and archaeology of the area and presented a model of prehistoric and historic settlement there. The second phase of the study consisted of a sample survey of 500 acres within the impact areas designed to gather data to test the model developed in the research design. In addition, previous collections from sites in the study area were re-analyzed and three previously recorded sites located in the study area were revisited and information on them updated.

The sample survey located 47 sites, 19 of which contained prehistoric components and 46 of which

had historic components. An additional three previously recorded sites were also examined. Among the more interesting finds in the sample survey were two large prehistoric sites which may be nonmound villages, and a handful of Early American period (1800-1860) occupations. Fifteen of the 50 sites examined during the fieldwork are recommended for test excavations in order to evaluate their eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. Two other sites must be further delineated before they can be evaluated. The remaining 33 sites are not considered eligible.

The site revisits produced important new data from three sites; Rosedale Plantation Mound (16IV1), South of Rosedale Plantation (16IV16), and the Slacks site (16IV18). None of these sites had not been examined since the 1980s, and the South of Rosedale Plantation site was incorrectly listed as destroyed on Louisiana Division of Archaeology site forms.

One of the topics addressed in the research design concerned the identification of complex settlement patterns in the area. Terminal Coles Creek and Mississippi period settlement appears to have a multi-level hierarchy of sites. This hierarchy includes multimound ceremonial centers, smaller single-mound sites, large nonmound villages, and small nonmound occupations. While contemporaneity of these sites cannot be established at this time, all are consistent in producing late Coles Creek to late Mississippi period ceramics.

A second topic examined in the study concerned site densities in the area. The sample survey data equate to one prehistoric occupation per 26 acres and one historic occupation per 11 acres. Comparing these figures to those from other large systematic surveys conducted in this region, prehistoric and historic site densities in the Upper Atchafalaya Back-

water Area were higher than those in the preceding Lower Atchafalaya, Terrebonne Marsh and Golden Ranch surveys located to the south. This is probably due to the fact that survey is limited to the highest probability areas within the study area, and that the natural levees are considerably more narrow in the current study area than in previous surveys.

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# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of cultural resources investigations of the Upper Atchafalaya Backwater Area conducted as part of the New Orleans District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Lower Atchafalaya Basin Reevaluation Study. The larger study focuses on ways of improving flood protection, navigation, and environmental management within the Lower Atchafalaya Basin. Planned dredging of several waterways within the project area, specifically Bayou Maringouin, Bayou Grosse Tete, Choctaw Bayou, and the Lighthouse and Portage Canals, may have an adverse impact on archaeological sites located in this area. The present research is being conducted in order to assist in developing reliable estimates of the number of sites that may be impacted.

The Upper Backwater Area is located in the eastern portion of the Atchafalaya Basin, between

the East Atchafalaya Protection Levee and the natural levees of the Mississippi River. (Figure 1-1). Its southern limit has been set at approximately  $33^{\circ} 22' 30''$  north latitude, which is currently the northern limit of lower backwater influence, and its northern limit is the junction of the East Atchafalaya Protection Levee and the Mississippi levee. Along the Mississippi River and False River, the study area boundary has been defined as a 100 year flood line which excludes the higher portions of the natural levees of these streams. The total area encompassed consists of about  $335 \text{ mi}^2$  ( $539 \text{ km}^2$ ). More specifically, however, the sample survey conducted under this study was limited to a 500 foot right-of-way on the natural levees of the aforementioned streams on which dredging will take place.

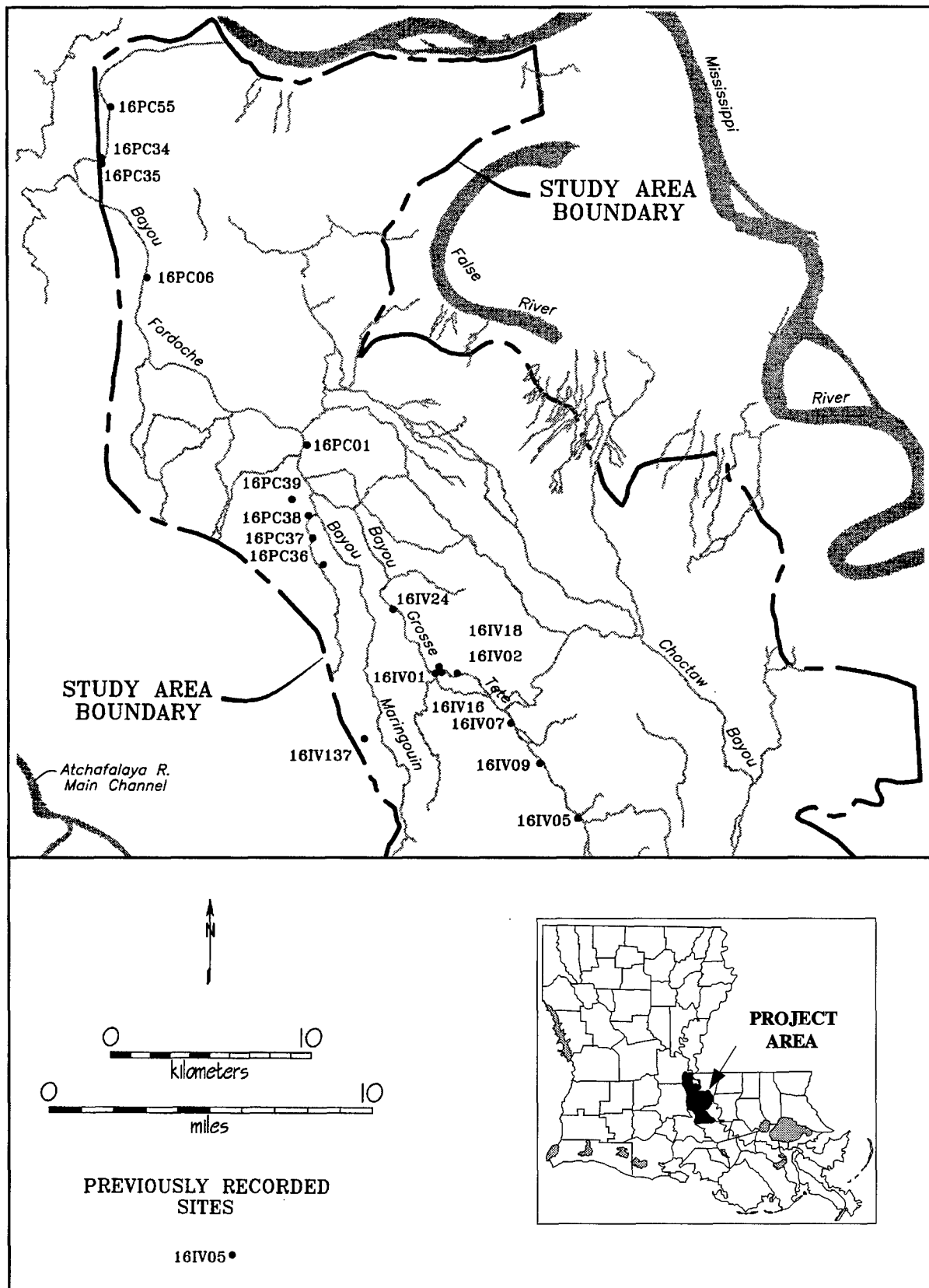


Figure 1-1. Map of the Upper Atchafalaya Backwater study area.

## CHAPTER 2

# ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The Atchafalaya Basin is an extensive lowland located at the transition between the Mississippi alluvial valley and its deltaic plain. Its limits are defined by the natural levees of the present course of the Mississippi River and two former courses, one now occupied by Bayou Teche and the other by Bayou Lafourche. The basin is composed predominantly of thick clay deposits that formed in backswamp or lacustrine environments. Also present are a number of crevasse or distributary channels which emanate from the river courses. Within the study area these originate from the present course of the Mississippi or the abandoned channels occupied by False River and Bayou Cane/Bayou Clause. The natural levees associated with these distributary and crevasse channels, although low and generally narrow, provide virtually the only elevated terrain within the basin.

### *Geomorphic History*

Heinrich (1994) and Britsch (1998) have mapped the near-surface geomorphology of the study area and identified three major distributary systems as well as a number of minor channels (Figure 2-1). Lacking radiocarbon dates for these features, they have used archaeological sites to provide a chronological framework for the geomorphic history of this area. The earliest landform with near-surface exposure is an apparent remnant of an earlier meander belt which Saucier (1994:Plate 11) maps from just north of New Roads to a point halfway between Addis

and Port Allen. Undifferentiated meander belt deposits lie only 15 ft (4.6 m) below the backswamp deposits south of False River (Saucier 1969). False River has truncated much of the upper end of this feature, and the rest is covered by backswamp or later levee deposits. This meander belt must pre-date Stage 1 (the current stage), and Saucier has mapped it as a Stage 2 remnant (1994:Plate 28).

Between 4500 and 3500 B.P. (c.f., Frazier 1967; Tornqvist et al. 1996), the Mississippi began diverting out of the (Stage 3) meander belt associated with the Teche delta and forming a new meander belt (Stage 2) along the eastern side of the valley. This led to the development of a new delta complex, the St. Bernard, in the eastern portion of the deltaic plain. Between Old River and Donaldsonville the river has remained largely within its Stage 2 meander belt since that time, building high natural levees that form the eastern edge of the Atchafalaya Basin and sending a series of crevasse channels and associated distributary systems into the study area. According to Heinrich (1994:7-13) and Britsch (1998:11) the earliest of these distributary systems is one now occupied along its upper portion by Bayou Plaquemine. Based on the presence of Tchefuncte components at the Bayou Sorrel site (16IV4) and the Schwing Place site (16IV13), they argue that the Bayou Plaquemine Distributary System is at least 2000-2500 years old. Both sites may also contain Poverty Point period components, suggesting that this distributary system may date as early as 3500 B.P.

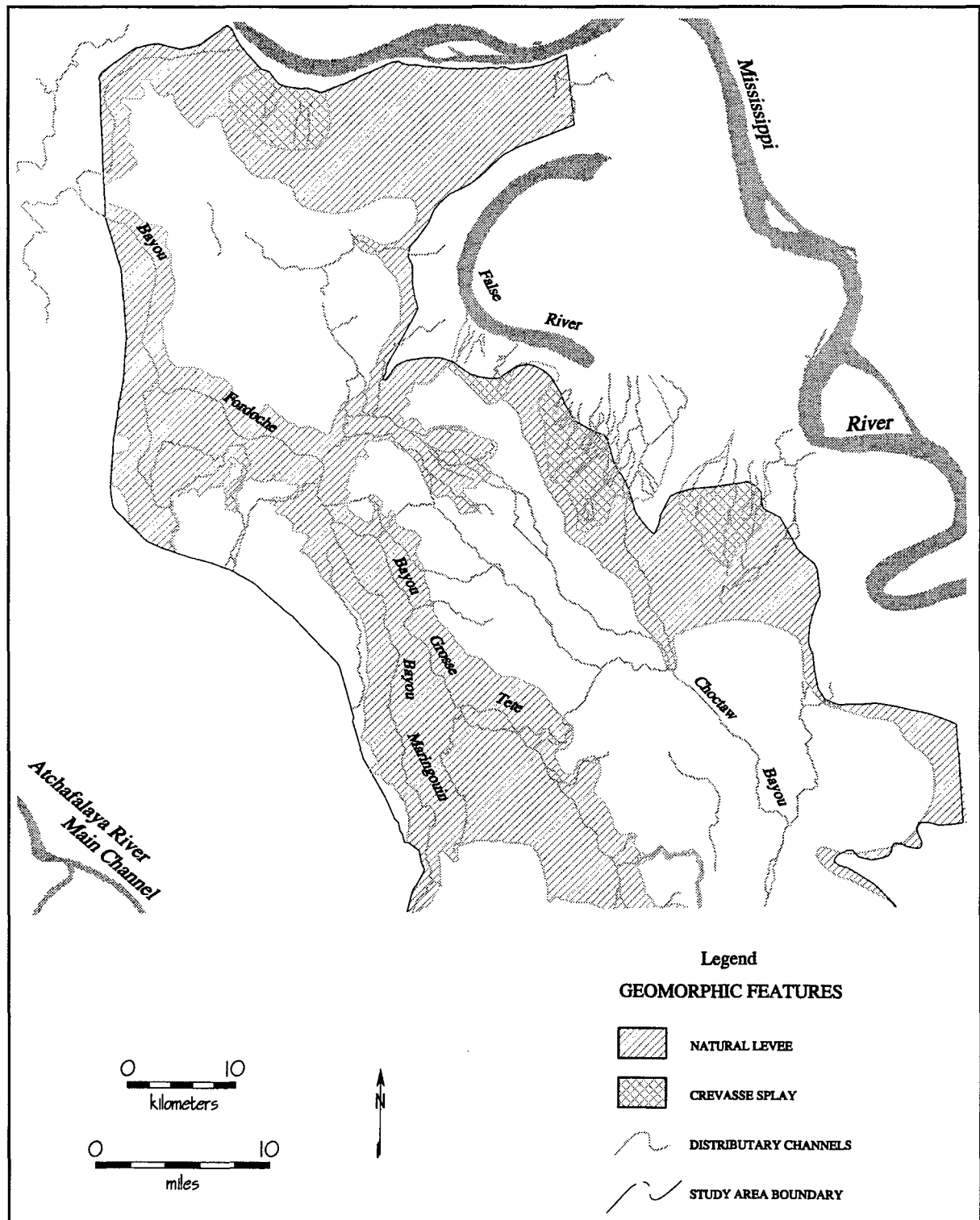


Figure 2-1. Exposed natural levee within the study area. From Britsch (1998).

After the formation of the Lafourche delta complex at around 1500 B.P. (Tornqvist et al. 1996), which effectively closed the Atchafalaya Basin to estuarine influence, the next major geological event to effect the study area was the formation of the Fardoche Distributary System (Britsch 1998:13-14). This system is associated with a crevasse channel that emanates from the present meander belt of the Mississippi and is now occupied by Bayou Fardoche. There are several occupations in the study area dating to the Baytown period, ca. 1600 - 1300 B.P., that provide a minimum age for the system.

The northeastern quarter of the study area is dominated by two abandoned channels, False River and Bayou Cane/Bayou Clause. A Marksville period site, 16WBR3, occupies the outside bank of the Bayou Cane/Bayou Clause channel. This dates the latter channel to as early as 2000 to 1600 B.P. (Britsch 1998:10). The fact that the unburied site is perched on the cut bank of the Bayou Cane/Bayou Clause channel suggests that the occupation must date to or postdate the abandonment of this channel. A distributary channel originates from the south bank of the Mississippi in this area, cutting across the former bed of the Bayou Cane/Bayou Clause channel. The Cane Bayou/Clause Bayou channel was probably cut off completely from the Mississippi by the time of the formation of this distributary channel. Two Coles Creek period sites (16WBR23 and 16WBR26) are associated with this distributary, suggesting that its channel was active 1300 to 800 years B.P. (Britsch 1998:10). Therefore, crevasse splays formed by overbank flooding of the active Bayou Cane/Bayou Clause channel must predate the Coles Creek period, and probably predate the Marksville occupation of 16WBR3. The formation of the False River may postdate the Bayou Cane/Bayou Clause channel substantially, as the former was cut off from the main Mississippi channel at least 1300 years after the latter. Crevasse off the levee of False River predate the abandonment of this channel in 1722.

The most recent geological event that has had a significant impact on the study area is the formation of the Atchafalaya River, which, according to Fisk (1952:65), occurred less than 500 years ago. The Atchafalaya began when a Mississippi River meander known as Old River-Turnbull Island intersected and captured the Red River. Sometime after that flooding produced a crevasse along the south side of this meander that would eventually become the Atchafalaya River. Over time this crevasse received increased flow, becoming a major distribu-

tary channel. This continued until 1831 when an artificial cutoff of the Old River-Turnbull Island meander separated the Red River and the Atchafalaya River from the main channel of the Mississippi. The Old River channel gradually silted in, but the lower portion of the meander was kept open by dredging in order to allow boat traffic to pass from the Mississippi to the Red and Atchafalaya rivers. After clearing of the log rafts that blocked the upper Atchafalaya during the 1840s and 1850s, its channel increased in size dramatically due to its gradient advantage over the Mississippi. This resulted in more severe flooding in the Atchafalaya Basin, and would have led to the diversion of the Mississippi's flow down the Atchafalaya River if the Old River Control Structure had not been built in 1963.

In summary, the study area is located in a dynamic fluvial environment that has changed significantly over the last 6000 years. It presently consists of extensive areas of backswamp flanked on the east and south by Mississippi River natural levees and criss-crossed by numerous small crevasse and distributary channels. The Bayou Fardoche distributary system, probably formed before 1600 B.P., dominates the western portion of the study area. Much of the eastern portion of the area is given to two abandoned channels and associated crevasse and crevasse splays. The chronology of Mississippi River meander belt formation is relatively well documented, but the ages of specific crevasse or distributary channels are not well known at present. Although crevasse channels generally have relatively short life spans, some of the distributary channels have apparently been reoccupied over considerable periods of time. For this reason the configuration of the environment at any point in time is difficult to reconstruct.

### *Present Environment*

Presently the study area includes a mixture of swamp forest and cleared land. The forest is distinctly zoned by the hydrology and the landforms on which it is resting. Bature communities are dominated by pioneer species, such as willow (*Salix* spp.), and cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*), which can tolerate frequent inundation and burial by sand and silt. The lower slopes of natural levees and the better-drained portions of backswamps include communities dominated by overcup oak (*Quercus lyrata*), sugarberry (*Celtis laevigata*), American elm (*Ulmis americana*), and green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*). The higher and better-drained natural levees support communities dominated by sweetgum (*Liquidambar*



*styraciflua*), and water oak (*Quercus nigra*). Portions of the backswamp that are permanently flooded or intermittently exposed were dominated by communities of baldcypress (*Taxodium distichum*) and water tupelo (*Nyssa aquatica*) (Craig et al. 1987). The cleared land consists predominantly of agricul-

tural fields located on the natural levees of the Mississippi River, the Fordoche distributary system (especially Bayous Grosse Tete and Maringouin), and False River. The vast majority of levee-top hardwood forest, in fact, has been cleared for agriculture.

## CHAPTER 3

# PREVIOUS RESEARCH AND REGIONAL CULTURE HISTORY

### *Previous Archaeological Research*

Aside from various nineteenth century traveler's descriptions of sites, the earliest archaeological research in the study area was Clarence B. Moore's expedition through the Atchafalaya Basin during the winter and spring of 1912-1913 (Moore 1913:9-21). Moore was primarily interested in collecting specimens of artifacts for display, and for this reason focused his efforts on mounds and burials. He discusses 14 sites in the basin of which one, the Mounds on Bayou Grosse Tête (now known as the Reed mounds, 16IV5), is located in the present study area. Although his agent visited the site and landowners had granted him permission to dig there, high water prevented Moore from accessing the site and digging his usual "trial holes" (Moore 1913:17-18). Moore was disappointed by the lack of artifacts associated with the burials that he excavated in the Atchafalaya region, but his report is important in that it provides the only descriptions of some of the sites in this area prior to their disturbance by development.

Two decades passed before the next archaeological research in the study area, a survey of sites in Iberville Parish and portions of adjacent parishes by Fred B. Kniffen (1938), a cultural geographer at Louisiana State University. Kniffen visited and made collections from over 50 sites, 8 of which fall within the present study area (1938:191). Although his data were limited to surface collections, Kniffen's research represents a significant advance over Moore's in-

vestigations in two respects. First, he drew on James A. Ford's (1936) recently completed work on developing a ceramic chronology for the Lower Mississippi Valley, and was therefore able to relate his sites to Ford's three period sequence. Second, Kniffen's background as a geographer allowed him to recognize that the archaeological sites could also provide information on the age of the alluvial landforms with which they were associated and on past environmental conditions in the area. Along with Kniffen's earlier study of sites in Plaquemines and St. Bernard parishes (Kniffen 1936) this represents the beginning of the close association between archaeology and geography in southern Louisiana.

Only a year after Kniffen's survey, funding from the Works Progress Administration allowed Ford to assemble a team of archaeologists to work on the LSU-WPA Statewide Archaeological Project. The primary goal of the project was to extend the ceramic chronology begun by Ford. Toward this end large-scale excavations were conducted at several sites thought to contain key portions of the sequence. Although no sites in the Atchafalaya Basin proper were investigated, two sites located on the natural levees of the Mississippi River south of the present study area, Bayou Goula (Quimby 1957) and Medora (Quimby 1951), were examined. The Medora site (16WBR1) on Bayou Bourbeaux in Manchac Point is now considered the type site of Plaquemine culture. The Bayou Goula site (16IV11), further to the

southeast of the study area, is another important site for the definition of late prehistoric and historic native American chronologies.

Over 10 years elapsed before the next archaeological research in the Atchafalaya Basin, an extensive survey of sites throughout the Louisiana coast by one of Kniffen's students, William G. McIntire. McIntire (1958:18) visited about 500 sites in the coastal zone, most of them probably reported by local informants. Although he conducted no sizable excavations, he used a hand auger to take borings at each site in order to obtain information on the composition and depth of the cultural deposits and the type of landform on which they were resting. Like Kniffen, McIntire attempted to use the archaeological data to provide a chronology for deltaic development and to help reconstruct past environments. Many of the sites he visited were ones initially recorded by Kniffen, and regarding these McIntire noted:

Many of the sites which he [Kniffen] investigated and reported have long since been destroyed by road-metal contractors, washed into bayous and lakes by erosion, or buried beneath recent sediments. The latter is particularly true in Iberville and Ascension parishes [McIntire 1958:7].

McIntire's visits in the study area include 16IV1, 16IV7, 16IV9/20, and 16IV16.

Another gap of over 10 years separates McIntire's study from the next archaeological investigations in the Atchafalaya Basin, James W. Springer's (1973) excavations at the Grand Bayou or Bruly St. Martin site (16IV6) which is located south of the current study area on the Bayou Pierre Part distributary system. Springer's investigations revealed a series of occupations beginning late in the Baytown period and continuing into the Coles Creek period. He argued that the initial occupations represented seasonal camps established while the crevasse channel was active (Springer 1973:118). After the channel was abandoned a more permanent occupation, including a platform mound, developed. Springer's excavations also produced a large quantity of faunal remains, which indicated a heavy reliance on fish throughout the site's history (Springer 1980).

The Louisiana Archaeological Society (LAS) was active in the area in the late 1970's and early 1980's. The Baton Rouge chapter of the LAS conducted test excavations at the Peter Hill Site (16IV2) on the east bank of Bayou Grosse Tete between 1979 and 1980.

Five test pits were dug in the area of Mound A, and extensive surface collections were taken from surrounding fields. Analysis of the material indicated sizable late Coles Creek and Plaquemine occupations at the site. In 1983, the Thom site (16PC6), on Bayou Fordoche, was mapped by Dennis Jones of LSU, who also took up surface collections provenienced by mound. Like the Peter Hill site, ceramics at Thom date to the late Coles Creek and Mississippi periods.

Within a few years of Springer's work the quantity of archaeological research in the Atchafalaya Basin increased significantly as a result of the implementation of federal historic preservation laws. Several small surveys, as well as programs of excavation of varying intensity, have been conducted in the immediate study area (Castille 1982; Fredlund et al. 1989; Gibson 1982; Gagliano et al. 1975; Gagliano et al. 1976; Goodwin et al. 1990; Hahn et al. 1996; Heartfield, Price and Green, Inc. 1983; Hinks et al. 1993; Jones et al. 1998; McIntire 1980; Markell et al. 1996; Neitzel 1977, 1978; Nichols 1978; Rivet 1978, 1979; Ryan and Flayharty 1982; Shuman 1985; Shuman et al. 1995; Spencer 1979; Stuart and Green 1983). Only the largest of these projects will be discussed here.

Two of the first such projects to be carried out in the vicinity of the present study area were a survey of proposed Corps of Engineers construction areas in the Atchafalaya Basin by Louisiana State University (Neuman and Servello 1976) and a survey of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway by Coastal Environments, Inc. (Gagliano et al. 1975). Both of these surveys covered very large areas and by current standards would not be considered intensive. In both cases the fieldwork focused on those landforms which the research by Kniffen and McIntire had shown to be high probability areas for prehistoric sites. The LSU survey, which began in the Fall of 1974 and was completed in the Spring of 1976, located 77 new sites and revisited 23 previously recorded ones. Another 33 sites could not be relocated. The CEI survey, carried out in 1975, recorded information on 158 sites located within one mile of the waterway and examined over 70 sites exposed along it or in spoil disposal areas. Both studies provided little information on specific sites, again because of the large areas with which they were concerned.

In 1979 and 1980, Jon Gibson conducted an extensive survey of proposed construction areas along the Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levees (Gibson 1982).

This survey examined a 406 m wide corridor that extended about 385 km from the vicinity of Moreauville in Avoyelles Parish south to below Morgan City. Despite the size of the area only 33 sites were recorded, seven of which fall within the present study area. In addition to the archaeological survey, an ethnographic survey was conducted in communities located near the project corridor.

In 1982, George Castille conducted survey at several historic plantation sites threatened by the proposed construction of a rail yard on the western natural levee of Bayou Maringouin. These sites (19PC36, 19PC37, 19PC38, and 16PC39) were large sugar plantations, often with standing sugar houses and tenants' quarters. Two of the sites, El Dorado (16PC7) and Kenmore (16PC36) each had standing great houses, dating to the 1840's and 1860's, respectively. The sites were recommended for testing to determine eligibility for the National Register.

Four years later Dennis Jones and Malcolm Shuman of the Museum of Geoscience at Louisiana State University began a project to revisit and map all of the known mound sites in Ascension, Iberville, Pointe Coupee, St. James and West Baton Rouge parishes (Jones and Shuman 1987). Six sites located in the present study area, 16IV1, 16IV2, 16IV5, 16IV7, 16IV9 and 16IV9/20, were included in their report. A seventh site, 16IV16, was reported as destroyed, and received only cursory attention in the report.

In 1992, EarthSearch, Inc., located and recorded the Nina Plantation site (16PC62), located on the west bank of the Mississippi River at the northern edge of False River Island (Yakubik 1994). Initial testing and trenching indicated the presence of extensive deposits of intact midden and features from Nina Plantation, dating from the first to third quarters of the nineteenth century. Data recovery operations at Nina were conducted by R. Christopher Goodwin and Associates in 1993 (Markell et al. 1996). Extensive backhoe trenching and excavation uncovered large, stratified midden deposits and provided valuable data on social change for the Ante-bellum and Emancipation periods, during which time the inhabitants underwent "Americanization" and adjusted to changing post-war economics.

Recently, Coastal Environments, Inc. conducted a sample survey for the Corps of Engineers in the Lower Atchafalaya Backwater area (Kelley et al. 2000). This work was conducted for the same Lower Atchafalaya Basin Reevaluation Study that necessitates

the current work. The Lower Backwater study area included much of the area east of the Atchafalaya Protection Levee, from the vicinity of Addis south to Houma. In total, the Lower Atchafalaya Backwater project reported 54 previously unrecorded sites in this area, and revisited 12 previously recorded sites. Using this data, CEI was able to address several different questions relating to subsistence, settlement, culture history, social evolution, political systems, and site placement. This survey serves as the model for the current study.

In summary, previous archaeological research in the Atchafalaya Basin has been sporadic and limited in scope. The earliest studies focused on prehistoric mound sites reported by local informants. These provided some data on specific sites, but little indication of whether the sites were representative of settlements in the region or how common they were. Systematic surveys did not begin until the advent of Federally-mandated cultural resource management studies. Often these studies have been limited to small project areas, and produced little in the way of substantive results. In a few cases more extensive overviews have been attempted, but the amount of systematic survey work in the study area is still very small. Overall, very little excavated data is currently available from the study area, and attempts to understand the structure of a single site have been virtually nonexistent.

### *Culture Chronology*

#### *Prehistory*

Since the earliest surficial landforms within the study area are related to Saucier's (1994) Meander Belt Stage 1 (3000 B.P. to present), the following discussion will begin with the earliest culture period in existence during that time: the Late Archaic. It is recognized that earlier Paleo-Indian and Early to Middle Archaic components are known from the coastal zone (see, for instance, Coastal Environments, Inc. 1977; Gagliano 1967, 1970; Weinstein et al. 1979), but these generally occur in areas where relict Pleistocene-age features are being exposed by shoreline transgression or on uplifted salt dome islands. Such features are deeply buried within the present study area and are not expected to be encountered in anything but deep borings. As noted in Chapter 2, a remnant of the Stage 2 meander belt may lie just below the surface in the eastern part of the study area, but these deposits are buried beneath at least 20 feet of backswamp deposit, and are unlikely to

**Table 3-1. Previously Recorded Sites in the Upper Backwater Study Area.**

SITE NO.	SITE NAME	FEATURES	PREVIOUSLY RECORDED COMPONENTS PRESENT
16IV01*	Rosedale	single mound, burials	Coles Creek, Plaquemine, Ante-bellum, Industrial
16IV02	Peter Hill	two mounds	Baytown, Coles Creek, Plaquemine
16IV05	Reed	two mounds	Baytown, Coles Creek, Plaquemine
16IV07	Mays Place Camp	single mound	Plaquemine, Ante-bellum
16IV09	Church Mound	single mound	Coles Creek, Plaquemine
16IV16*	South of Rosedale Plantation	single mound	Coles Creek, Plaquemine, Industrial
16IV18*	Slacks	prehistoric scatter	Coles Creek, Plaquemine, Industrial
16IV24		shell midden	Prehistoric Unknown
16IV137	Musson Mill	historic scatter	Industrial
16PC01	Livonia	two mounds	Baytown, Coles Creek, Plaquemine
16PC06	Thom	two mounds	Coles Creek, Plaquemine
16PC34	Bayou Fardoche-Morganza	prehistoric, historic scatter	Prehistoric, Historic Unknown
16PC35	Mount Olive	prehistoric, historic scatter	Plaquemine, Civil War, Industrial
16PC36	Kenmore Plantation	historic scatter, 1860's house	Civil War, Industrial
16PC37	El Dorado Plantation	historic scatter, 1840's house	Ante-bellum, Civil War, Industrial
16PC38	Vernalia Plantation	historic scatter	Ante-bellum, Civil War, Industrial
16PC39	Woodley Plantation	historic scatter, 20th c. structures	Industrial
16PC55		historic scatter	Industrial

\*Revisited and updated by the current study.

be impacted by construction related to the current Corps of Engineers project. Table 3-1 presents information on previously recorded sites in the study area.

#### ***Late Archaic Period, 3000-1500 B.C.***

Research elsewhere in eastern North America suggests that the Late Archaic period was a time of marked population increases and the beginning of extensive trade networks. The evidence for the former is seen in the appearance of large habitation sites such as Indian Knoll, Kentucky (Webb 1946), while the latter is reflected in the exotic raw materials which occur at some sites. Plant cultivation involving a locally domesticated squash and seed plants such as sumpweed and chenopod may also have begun during this period (Smith 1989). The tradition of mound building which began in the Middle Archaic period in portions of the Lower Mississippi Valley apparently continued, although most of the available radiocarbon dates from these features predate this period.

In coastal Louisiana, three geographically separated phases have been identified, but only the Pearl River phase, based on material from the Cedarland site

(22HA506) in Hancock County, Mississippi (Gagliano and Webb 1970), is relatively well known (Figure 3-1). The Copell phase is based on excavations into an apparent preceramic cemetery on Pecan Island (Collins 1941), while Bayou Blue is named for material from a site (16AL1) in Allen Parish (Coastal Environments, Inc. 1977; Gagliano et al. 1982; Weinstein et al. 1977, 1979). Typical diagnostic artifacts include Evans, Ensor, Gary, Maçon, Palmillas, and Pontchartrain point types (Gagliano and Webb 1970; Gibson 1976), along with ground-stone implements such as winged atlatl weights and tubular pipes (Gagliano and Webb 1970:Table 3).

Gibson (1976) has noted several apparent Late Archaic assemblages from the Prairie Terrace surface around Lafayette, while Weinstein et al. (1979) record similar sites near Opelousas. South of the present study are several Late Archaic sites that apparently are directly associated with Teche-Mississippi natural levees (Gagliano et al. 1978). These are sites 16SL16 and 16SL19, reported by Neuman and Servello (1976:24) during their Atchafalaya Basin survey. Their presence is almost certainly related to the Teche channel after the Mississippi had abandoned the course. The fact that such sites exist on the Teche-Mississippi natural levees implies that similar

STAGE	PERIOD	CULTURE	TIME INTERVAL	PHASES		
				EASTERN AREA	CENTRAL AREA	WESTERN AREA
FORMATIVE	HISTORIC	VARIOUS CULTURES	A.D. 1800	←-----→		
	MISSISSIPPI	MISSISSIPPIAN PLAQUEMINE	A.D. 1700	←-----→		
			A.D. 1600	DELTA NATCHEZAN  MEDORA  BARATARIA	PETITE ANSE	LITTLE PECAN
			A.D. 1500		BURK HILL	
			A.D. 1200			BAYOU CHENE
	COLES CREEK	TRANSITIONAL COLES CREEK	A.D. 1000	ST. GABRIEL	THREE BAYOU	HOLLY BEACH
		COLES CREEK	A.D. 900	BAYOU RAMOS	MORGAN	JEFF DAVIS
			A.D. 850	BAYOU CUTLER	WHITE LAKE	WELSH
	BAYTOWN	TROYVILLE-LIKE	A.D. 700	WHITEHALL	?	ROANOKE
	MARKSVILLE	MARKSVILLE	A.D. 400	GUNBOAT LANDING	VEAZEY	LAKE ARTHUR
			A.D. 200	MAGNOLIA & MANDALAY		
			A.D. 1	SMITHFIELD	JEFFERSON ISLAND	LACASSINE
	TCHULA	TCHEFUNCTE	250 B.C.	LABRANCHE	LAFAYETTE	GRAND LAKE
				BEAU MIRE		
ARCHAIC	POVERTY POINT	POVERTY POINT	500 B.C.	PONTCHARTRAIN	BEAU RIVAGE	?
	LATE ARCHAIC	ARCHAIC	1000 B.C.	GARCIA		
	MIDDLE ARCHAIC		1500 B.C.	BAYOU JASMINE	RABBIT ISLAND	
	EARLY ARCHAIC		3000 B.C.	PEARL RIVER	COPELL	BAYOU BLUE
			5000 B.C.	MONTE SANO	BANANA BAYOU	?
			6000 B.C.	AMITE RIVER	?	?
	LATE PALEO	PALEO-INDIAN	8000 B.C.	ST. HELENA		
LITHIC	EARLY PALEO			JONES CREEK	VATICAN	STROHE
	PRE-PROJECTILE POINT		10,000 B.C.	?	AVERY ISLAND	?
		?	?	?	?	?

Figure 3-1. Prehistoric culture-historical sequence for southern Louisiana.

sites could occur in the southern portion of the present study area.

#### **Poverty Point Period, 1500-500 B.C.**

In much of eastern North America this time interval witnessed a transition from Archaic hunting and gathering cultures to Woodland cultures characterized by food production, pottery manufacture, and mound building (Stoltman 1978:715-717). Current interpretations suggest that these three features have different and possibly unrelated origins. There is increasing evidence of the cultivation of native seed plants and a locally domesticated squash by 1500 B.C. in the midwestern United States (Smith 1989). Ceramics probably appeared somewhat earlier than this in the third millennium B.C. along the Atlantic Coast (Stoltman 1978:715), and as noted above, mound building had begun in the Lower Mississippi Valley prior to 3000 B.C.

In the Lower Mississippi Valley this transition is marked by the development of the distinctive Poverty Point culture. Among the material characteristics of this culture are baked clay balls or Poverty Point objects, microlith and lapidary industries, and earthworks (Webb 1977). Pottery is not abundant, but fiber-tempered and sand-tempered wares have been found at several sites. Subsistence data from the J.W. Copes site (16MA47) suggest a continuation of an Archaic pattern of intensive collecting of wild plants and animals, possibly supplemented by the cultivation of squash (Jackson 1986). The status of squash in the subsistence economy remains uncertain. Fritz and Kidder (1993:6) have questioned whether the *Cucurbita pepo* seeds recovered from the J.W. Copes site are from domesticated plants or wild gourds.

As with many periods of time, it is difficult to pigeonhole the current study area into existing phase schemes. Poverty Point period components south of the present study area have been included in the Rabbit Island phase, proposed by Phillips (1970:875-876) on the basis of "a handful of scattered components of Poverty Point affiliation in the Teche-Mississippi region." The three components listed by Phillips south of the present study area, Bayou Sorrel (16IV4), Schwing Place (16IV13), and Miller Place (16SM6), are based on Moore's (1913) recovery of Poverty Point objects from them, and all are apparently associated with channels of the Bayou Plaquemine distributary system (Heinrich 1994:8). Given that baked clay objects are also found in Tchefuncte as-

semblages, it is not entirely certain that these last three sites are Poverty Point in age. Rabbit Island remains a poorly defined phase, and no adequate assemblage descriptions currently exist. The Beau Rivage phase, derived from Gibson's (1976) work at the eponymous site (16LY5), is much more well-defined. However, this phase has been assigned primarily to the western side of the Atchafalaya Basin, and like the Rabbit Island phase, its application to the current study area is unclear. No Poverty Point sites have been identified from this area, so the point remains somewhat moot.

#### **Tchula Period, 500 B.C.-A.D. 1**

This period in the Lower Mississippi Valley has traditionally been characterized by the integration of food production, pottery manufacture, and mound building into a single cultural system. In the southern portion of the valley these developments take place in an archaeological culture called Tchefuncte. Originally defined in southern Louisiana (Ford and Quimby 1945), Tchefuncte culture is now recognized to extend as far north as the vicinity of Clarksdale, Mississippi, and as far west as northeast Texas. The diagnostic artifacts of this and most of the succeeding prehistoric cultures of the Lower Mississippi Valley are their distinctive ceramics. Tchefuncte pottery is characterized by a laminated paste which appears to lack tempering. Replication studies suggest that the laminated texture is simply the result of minimal preparation of the raw material (Gertjejansen and Shenkel 1983), an expected feature of an incipient ceramic technology. Other diagnostic attributes of Tchefuncte ceramics include the use of podal supports and decorative techniques such as jab-and-drag incising.

The evidence for food production in Tchefuncte culture presently comes from one site, Morton Shell Mound (16IB3), where remains of two possible tropical cultigens, squash and bottle gourd, and one possible native cultigen, *Polygonum*, were reported (Byrd and Neuman 1978:11-13). Fritz and Kidder (1993:6-7) have reviewed the data from this site and suggested that none of these remains can be accepted as definite evidence of cultivation. The squash seeds from the site are small, within the size range of wild gourds, and the *Polygonum* seeds are not those of the domesticated species, *P. erectum*. The status of the bottle gourd is uncertain, but it could have been collected from specimens washed up on the coast. Mound construction, now well-documented for the preceding periods, is surprisingly not clearly associated with

Tchefuncte culture. Gibson and Shenkel (1988:13-14) have summarized the evidence for the association of mound construction with Tchefuncte occupations at four sites: Lafayette Mounds (16SM10) and Coulee Crow (16SM17), both located on the Vermilion River; Lake Louis (16CT24), located on Macon Ridge; and Boothe Landing (16CT31), on the Ouachita River north of Harrisonburg. Gibson (1974:85) suggests that the mounds served as communal burial locales for a dispersed population residing at small, seasonal base camps or semi-permanent villages.

There are no known Tchula period sites in the present study area. Phillips (1970:882-884) included three Tchefuncte components just south of the present study area in his Lafayette phase, named for the small mound group partially excavated by Edwin Doran in 1941 (Ford and Quimby 1945:21-24). All three components, Bayou Sorrel (16IV4), Bruly St. Martin (16IV6), and Clara Murry (16IV12), were based on small numbers of sherds collected by McIntire (1958). Weinstein and Rivet (1978) later reanalysed this material and suggested including it in their Beau Mire phase, a late Tchula period construct based on test excavations at the type site located east of the Mississippi River in Ascension Parish. A Tchefuncte or very early Marksville component was identified at the Miller site (16SM6) in St. Martin Parish in a recent report by CEI (Kelley et al. 2000).

#### **Marksville Period, A.D. 1-400**

In many parts of eastern North America this period is marked by evidence of extensive interregional contact through a phenomenon labeled the Hopewell Interaction Sphere (Struever 1964). The focal points of this interaction sphere were societies in the Ohio and Illinois River valleys which acquired large quantities of exotic raw materials, including obsidian, copper, mica, shark's teeth, and marine shells, in exchange for specialized finished goods such as copper-covered panpipes and ear spools (Stoltman 1978:721). Various theories have been offered to explain the nature of this interaction, some emphasizing socio-religious systems and others pointing to economic networks, but the problem remains unresolved.

Within the Lower Mississippi Valley, the culture which participated in this interaction sphere is called Marksville. Toth (1988:211-212) has argued that Marksville culture developed out of Tchefuncte as a result of intermittent contacts with cultures in the Illinois River valley area, but he only speculates

on the nature of these contacts. He emphasizes that the evidence for Hopewellian interaction is largely limited to the Marksville mortuary system and aspects of ceramic decoration. Marksville burial patterns indicate a system of episodic, often group interment with little regard for individual status (Toth 1988:29-42). Other cultural subsystems, such as subsistence and settlement pattern, may have changed very little from the preceding Tchula period. Subsistence data from Marksville sites are limited, but the available information suggests a broad-based hunting and gathering economy (Kidder and Fritz 1993; Mariaca 1988). Current evidence from sites in the Midwest suggests that while maize may have been present at this time, it was of only minor importance to the economy (Smith 1989:1569).

Very few Marksville sites have actually been excavated in the region. A single pit at the Oak Chenier site (16SMY494), excavated by Gibson (1978:Table 16) south of the current project area near the confluence of bayous Chene and Penchant yielded a late Marksville ceramic complex dominated by Marksville Incised *var. Yokena* and Marksville Stamped *var. Manny*. A single flexed burial was also excavated from these same levels (1978:129). The Bayou Cutler site, to the southeast (Gagliano et al. 1979), yielded an early Marksville component in the basal levels of a shell midden. Salvage excavations at the Coquilles site to the southeast, conducted by Richard Beavers for the National Park Service in Jean Lafitte National Park, Barataria Unit, yielded important evidence for early and late Marksville occupations for the Barataria basin (1982). While this is an important, extensively excavated mound center, and was used by Beavers to define his early Marksville Coquilles phase, his data is largely unpublished, and much of the material from the Coquilles site has yet to be analyzed (Kidder 1995:37). The Boudreaux site, excavated by Mary Teresia Lamb (1983), also in the Barataria basin, yielded a similar early Marksville assemblage.

Toth (1977, 1988) defined the Marksville period Smithfield phase as stretching "from the mouth of the Red River... to the deltaic Plain which begins at Lake Verret" (1988:196), with components at the Smithfield site (16WBR3), just west of the study area, and the Medora and Monks (16PC5) sites just to the south and north, respectively. He also tentatively assigns a Smithfield component to the Bayou Goula site, to the southeast of the study boundary, and suggests that the Schwing Place Mound may belong to this phase based on Moore's description of the site. Smithfield ceramics are marked by the pres-



ence of Marksville Incised, *var. Sunflower*, Marksville Stamped, *vars. Marksville* and *Old River*, and Pontchartrain Check Stamped, *var. Canefield*. It is also distinctive in the absence of Twin Lakes Punctated and Withers Fabric impressed, as well as the *Indian Bay* variety of Indian Bay Stamped. No Marksville components have been defined within the study area.

#### **Baytown Period, A.D. 400-700**

The period following the Hopewellian florescence has been characterized as a time of cultural decline throughout much of eastern North America (Griffin 1967:187). This is certainly implied in Phillips' (1970:901) statement that ceramic decoration was "at a remarkably low ebb" during this period in the Lower Mississippi Valley. However, a number of researchers have suggested that the apparent decline may not have been as pervasive as previously believed. In the Midwest, Braun (1977) and Styles (1981) have argued that this period, in contrast to earlier interpretations, was a time of population growth and increased regional social integration. Along the Florida Gulf coast an elaborate culture called Weeden Island developed during this time (Milanich and Fairbanks 1980:89-143).

Two archaeological cultures are now thought to have been present in the Lower Mississippi Valley during the Baytown period. One of these, Baytown culture, occurred in the northern portion of the valley, primarily in eastern Arkansas, western Tennessee and northwestern Mississippi (Jeter et al. 1989:Figure 14). The principal ceramic types associated with it include Mulberry Creek Cord Marked, Alligator Incised, Salomon Brushed, and Larto Red. The other culture, Troyville, extended from northern Louisiana and the adjacent portion of Mississippi south to the deltaic plain. Its ceramic tradition is characterized by the persistence of late varieties of Marksville Incised, Marksville Stamped, and Churupa Punctated, and the appearance of lesser amounts of Larto Red and Mulberry Creek Cord Marked. As originally defined, Troyville extended south to the Gulf of Mexico, but it is not entirely clear what relationship coastal Baytown events have to "heartland" Troyville (Gibson 1982:58-59; Kidder and Wells 1992).

Changes were also occurring in the stone tool tradition during this period. Small arrow points began to replace dart points, reflecting a transition from the atlatl to the bow and arrow. The limited subsistence data suggest a continuation of the hunting and gathering economy that characterized the previous

periods (Carr 1982; Kidder and Fritz 1993). Presently there is no evidence of maize from Baytown period contexts, but there is evidence of the cultivation of some of the native seed crops at sites in the northern portion of the Lower Mississippi Valley (Fritz 1990; Weinstein et al. 1995:275).

Mound building continued in the Baytown period, and there are indications that a shift from a mortuary function to a building substructure began toward the end of this time (Rolingson 1982). Burial programs resembled those of the Marksville period, in that a wide variety of interment types may be found within a single site, ranging from full extended inhumations to bundle burials, single skulls, and cremations; multiple burials are very common. Important shifts in both burial program and mound construction may signal key changes in social structure in the later phases of the Troyville culture of the central Lower Valley. Burials appear to become more focused on the interment of individuals rather than large groups, and platform mounds begin to supplant accretional burial mounds, often covering them (Rolingson 1982; Steponaitis 1986; Kidder and Wells 1992). Steponaitis (1986) and Kidder and Wells (1992) have interpreted these changes as important steps in the evolution of later ranked societies in the lower Mississippi Valley, possibly the first signs of important social change since mound construction began in the region.

Baytown components throughout southeast and south-central Louisiana have been assigned to a single phase, Whitehall, named for a site (16LV19) on the Amite River (Phillips 1970; Weinstein 1974). Again relying on McIntire's data, Phillips listed components at the Smithfield site (16WBR3) just to the east of the study area, and at Grand Bayou (16IV6), Little Goddel Bayou (16IB7), and Miller (16SM6) just to the south. Kelley et al. (2000) have noted Whitehall phase ceramics from Miller which include Coles Creek Incised, *var. Stoner*, Larto Red, *vars. Larto* and *Silver Creek*, Mazique Incised, *vars. Bruly* and *Hendrix*, Woodville Zoned Red, *var. Woodville*, French Fork lugs, and the "Six Mile" rim treatment (Weinstein et al. 1978:Tables 29-30, Fig. 63). The so-called "Officer Punctated modes" of decoration, common in the late phases of the Baytown period in the northern half of the Lower Valley, are also found in the area during this time (Belmont n.d.a; Kelley et al 2000; Wells 1998). Three Baytown period components have been identified in the study area, although the varieties identified tend to fit in to the terminal end of the period.

**Coles Creek Period, A.D. 700-1200**

Elsewhere in eastern North America this time interval corresponds to the latter portion of the Late Woodland period and the beginning of the Mississippian period. Within the Lower Mississippi Valley, a cultural florescence which shows a marked resemblance to Weeden Island culture of northwest Florida occurs during this period. This is especially true in southeast Louisiana. The precise nature of the relationship of Coles Creek culture to Weeden Island is uncertain, but the similarities in ceramic decoration and community pattern are unmistakable. Both were characterized by the use of incised, stamped, and punctated pottery types in which the decorative zone is largely restricted to a band around the rim of the vessel, and by the construction of small platform mounds around plazas.

The development of substantial programs of mound construction, which tend to follow similar patterns from site to site, as well as the inferred presence of mound-top residence, have been interpreted as an indication of the development of ranked social systems during this period (Belmont 1967; Williams and Brain 1983:369-374; Wells 1998:359-362). At a few sites, such as Mt. Nebo in north Louisiana and Lake George in the Yazoo Basin, some individuals appear to have been treated differently in death than others, suggestive of differential status. Coles Creek societies were once thought to have been based on economies which included the cultivation of maize; however, recent ethnobotanical data suggest that neither maize nor the native North American seed crops were of importance at this time (Fritz and Kidder 1993:8-9; Kidder and Fritz 1993:291-294; Wells and Roberts 1996). Intensive fishing, hunting and gathering supplemented by cultivation of a few plants, such as squash and gourds, are currently believed to have provided the subsistence base.

Coles Creek period occupations are relatively common within the study area. Of ten previously identified sites within the study area, nine have Coles Creek occupations, primarily for the late end of the sequence. Unfortunately, Coles Creek period phases are not well-defined for the immediate region; while sites in the area just south of the current study have been placed in the coastal Louisiana Bayou Cutler-Bayou Ramos-St. Gabriel phase sequence (Kelley et al. 2000), and Phillips (1970:Figure 446) assigned a Bayou Cutler component to Livonia (16PC1), it is probably not desirable to import these phases this far up the Lower Mississippi Valley. [It should be

noted that phase and period dates from the study area have not been fully reconciled with data from elsewhere in the Lower Mississippi Valley, i.e. Wells (1998) and Kidder (1996)] Coles Creek period ceramics in these collections appear to more closely resemble those from areas to the north, specifically contemporary Natchez Bluffs and Lower Red River pottery (Brown 1985; Belmont 1967). Lacking in the collections from Coles Creek sites in the study area are such Bayou Cutler and Bayou Ramos varieties as Coles Creek Incised, *vars. Serentz and Dozier*, and Mazique Incised, *vars. Sweet Bay and Back Ridge*. North of 16IV5, Pontchartrain Check Stamped becomes more rare (although still a minor component), and French Fork Incised is generally more poorly executed and not as common. The Lone Oak and Machias rim forms are absent from Upper Backwater collections north of 16IV5. Chevalier Stamped becomes more common than in areas to the south; collections from the Lower Atchafalaya Backwater Survey produced only two examples of the type.

Due to this uncertainty regarding the phase affiliation of early and middle Coles Creek components in the study area, no effort will be made to shoehorn them into an existing phase scheme. However, the terminal part of the Coles Creek period in the Upper Atchafalaya Backwater probably fits best with the late Coles Creek St. Gabriel phase of southeast Louisiana. A St. Gabriel phase component has been excavated at the Thibodaux site (16AS35), a stratified shell midden on Bayou Boeuf near the southern border of the study area (Weinstein et al. 1978:34-55). One of the lower strata at the site produced sherds of Plaquemine Brushed, *var. Plaquemine*; Mazique Incised, *var. Manchac*; and Addis Plain, *var. Addis* as well as a radiocarbon date of  $975 \pm 60$  B.P.:cal A.D. 975-1217. At the nearby Goat Island site (16SMY1), Goodwin et al. (1985:108-110) received a series of radiocarbon dates ( $840 \pm 45$  B.P.:cal A.D. 1050-1283;  $860 \pm 130$  B.P.:cal A.D. 898-1396; and  $810 \pm 80$  B.P.:cal A.D. 1031-1373) which may relate to a St. Gabriel phase occupation, although the test excavations produced only plain pottery. Within the current study area, a St. Gabriel phase component was identified from the Peter Hill (16IV2) site from material excavated by the LAS in 1979 and 1980 (Fredlund et al. 1989).

**Mississippi Period, A.D. 1200-1650**

The last prehistoric period in eastern North America witnessed the development of chiefdom-level societies based on intensive cultivation of maize, beans

and squash. Perhaps the most dynamic of these societies appeared in the Central Mississippi Valley about A.D. 1000. Referred to as Mississippian culture, it was characterized by a shell-tempered ceramic complex and a settlement pattern including large mound centers and nucleated habitation sites which were often fortified (Stoltman 1978:725). During the first centuries of the second millennium A.D., this culture spread rapidly along the major river valleys of this portion of the continent. The nature of this expansion, either by movement of people or diffusion of ideas, is still debated, but by A.D. 1200 Mississippian culture was found as far south as northern Florida and as far east as Georgia.

In the Lower Mississippi Valley Mississippian culture encountered an indigenous non-Mississippian culture, and a hybridization of the two occurred. Phillips (1970) considered the resident culture to have been Plaquemine, an outgrowth of Coles Creek culture which began about A.D. 1000. He viewed the interaction between Mississippian and Plaquemine culture as resulting in gradual changes in the Plaquemine ceramic tradition and settlement pattern. Later in the period, after A.D. 1400, an actual intrusion of Mississippian groups displaced the resident Plaquemine groups. Brain (1978) offered a somewhat different interpretation of this sequence of events. He argued that the Lower Mississippi Valley culture which experienced the initial Mississippian contact about A.D. 1100 was Coles Creek, and that the resulting hybridization produced Plaquemine culture. The remainder of the period saw a gradual increase in Mississippian influence, at least in the Yazoo Basin, until about A.D. 1400 when a full Mississippian cultural pattern was achieved in the Lake George phase (Brain 1978:362). Brain's reinterpretation of the cultural sequence resulted in a shift in the established chronologies. Phases such as Crippen Point and Preston, which were formerly considered Plaquemine culture manifestations of the early Mississippi period, were placed late in the Coles Creek period and assigned to a late Coles Creek culture that persisted until A.D. 1200. Recently Kidder (1993:Figure 2, 26) has suggested moving the beginning of the Mississippi period back to A.D. 1000 in order to bring the Lower Mississippi Valley into agreement with the Central Mississippi Valley chronology. Under this scheme Coles Creek culture would persist into the Mississippi period until about A.D. 1200 when Plaquemine culture appeared.

While disagreeing somewhat on the origin of Plaquemine culture, all authorities concur that it ex-

hibited numerous continuities with the preceding Coles Creek culture. Several of the Plaquemine ceramic types appear to be direct outgrowths of Coles Creek types. There are some changes, however, including the addition of small amounts of finely ground shell and other organic matter to the pottery and the extension of the decorative field to include the body of the vessel. Mound construction continued on an even greater scale than in the previous period. The mounds were now larger, there were more at each site, and there were more sites. Intensive agriculture is presumed to be the economic base on which this florescence was built, but there is presently little direct evidence of it in the Lower Mississippi Valley until late in the period (Kidder 1993:133-136).

Several regional phases of early Plaquemine culture have been identified in southern Louisiana (see Figure 3-4). The closest of these to the present study area is the Medora phase, proposed by Gagliano (1967) on the data provided by Quimby (1951) from the WPA-era Medora site excavations in West Baton Rouge Parish. Farther to the southeast Holley and DeMarçay (1977) identified the Barataria phase for sites within the Barataria Basin based on excavations by the Delta Chapter of the Louisiana Archaeological Society at the Fleming site (16JE36). Southwest of the present study area Brown (1982) proposed the Burk Hill phase on the basis of material from the Burk Hill site (16IB100) on Cote Blanche Island. The principal ceramic markers of these phases include Plaquemine Brushed, *var. Plaquemine*, Anna Incised, *vars. Anna, Australia*, and *Evangeline*; L'Eau Noire Incised, *vars. L'Eau Noire* and *Bayou Bourbe*; Carter Engraved, Maddox Engraved, and varieties of Addis Plain.

It is within this time frame that material of the so-called "Southern Cult" can be found (Weinstein 1987). The strongest representation of cult designs occurs on pottery of the Barataria phase (Holley and DeMarçay 1977:16; Weinstein 1987). This is not surprising, given the existence of the Bayou Petre phase in the St. Bernard/Plaquemine area to the southeast, often associated with the Pensacola variant of Mississippian culture (Knight 1984; Weinstein 1987). Other Southern Cult items include fragments of carved stone discs from the Rosedale (16IV1) and Shellhill Plantation (16SJ2) sites (Weinstein 1987).

The aforementioned Bayou Petre phase is another potentially important influence on the project area. Formally defined by Gagliano (1967) and Phillips (1970), from Kniffen's 1938 collections in St. Ber-

nard and Plaquemine Parishes, it is thought to represent intrusive peoples or ideas from the northeastern Gulf coast. The ceramic assemblage at Bayou Petre phase sites is dominated by material that bears a distinct resemblance to the shell-tempered "Pensacola variant" ceramics of the Alabama and Florida coastal Mississippian societies, including Moundville Incised, Owens Punctated, D'Olive Incised, Mound Place Incised, Leland Incised and Pensacola Incised. Shell-tempered sherds relating to the Bayou Petre phase were excavated at Sims (16SC2), yielding a date of  $490 \pm 180$  B.P. [cal. A.D. 1427 (Giardino 1985:92)]. Nine of ten previously identified sites in the study area can probably be assigned to the Medora phase; the tenth, 16IV24, has yielded no diagnostic material.

By A.D. 1500, new influences began to be felt in the Louisiana coastal zone, as aboriginal groups began to take on the appearance, at least in material culture, of the peoples encountered by the early European explorers. This late Plaquemine culture is recognized by one overextended phase, called Delta Natchezan. Created by Phillips (1970), this phase includes all south Louisiana sites with ceramics similar to those recorded for the protohistoric and historic Natchez. The type site for this phase is Bayou Goula (16IV11), the assumed location of the historic Bayagoula, excavated during the WPA era and reported on by Quimby (1957). Principal ceramic markers of the Delta Natchezan phase include Fatherland Incised, *vars. Fatherland* and *Bayou Goula*, and those versions of Addis Plain which contain small amounts of shell, *vars. Greenville* and *St. Catherine* (Brown 1985; Phillips 1970; Quimby 1957:121-128; Steponaitis 1974). Mazique Incised, *var. Manchac* and Plaquemine Brushed may be considered minor elements in the assemblage, as well. A small number of shell tempered Mississippian sherds also were noted at Bayou Goula, principally of the types Mississippi Plain and Pocahontas Punctated. The presence of minority amounts of shell tempered pottery at other Delta Natchezan sites, such as Isle Bonne (16JE60) and Fleming in the Barataria region (Holley and DeMarcay 1977; Gagliano et al. 1979), argues for some degree of interaction between the resident Plaquemine peoples and Mississippian groups to the north and east.

A Delta Natchezan component was encountered in the upper levels at the Thibodaux site (16AS35) on Bayou Boeuf. This component yielded sherds of Fatherland Incised, *vars. Fatherland* and *Bayou Goula*; Maddox Engraved, *var. Emerald*; Plaquemine Brushed;

and Addis Plain, *vars. Addis* and *Greenville* (Weinstein et al. 1978:Table 2). Radiocarbon assays on these midden levels produced dates of  $515 \pm 60$  B.P.:cal A.D. 1308-1476 and  $460 \pm 60$  B.P.:cal A.D. 1400-1627. Four sites within the Upper Backwater Survey area have produced late prehistoric components coeval with Delta Natchezan.

The principal aboriginal groups encountered by European explorers in the vicinity of the study area were the Tunica, Chitimacha, the Houma, the Bayagoula, and the Okelousa. The first recorded contact with the Bayagoula occurred in February of 1699 when a group of Bayagoula and Mugulasha discovered the French at Mobile and attempted to make an alliance (Swanton 1911:274). Shortly afterward, in March, Iberville ascended the Mississippi and visited their village on the west bank of the Mississippi, near the mouth of Bayou Lafourche, at the mouth of the crevasse channel which bears their name. This village site was later the site of the Paris-Duverney concession. Iberville recorded fairly detailed descriptions of the village as well as the material culture and personal appearance of the inhabitants.

Iberville described the Bayagoula/Mugulasha village as one-fourth league (about half a mile) from the river, on a small stream providing fresh water. The village was surrounded by a ten-foot-high cane palisade. The community supported two temples, one for each group. Iberville was able to inspect one temple, which he described as a dome-shaped building, thirty feet in diameter, with mud-plastered walls. The entrance was protected by a lean-to, eight feet wide and twelve feet long. The houses, which numbered as many as 107, were built similarly and roofed with split cane. As many as 250 male residents lived at the village (McWilliams 1981:62-3).

At the time of his visit, Iberville noted the effects of smallpox on the Bayougoula population, remarking that the disease had killed one-fourth of the people (McWilliams 1981:63). The effects of disease, the merging of smaller groups, and pressure by Europeans and larger tribes caused numerous migrations and relocations of regional native groups after the arrival of the Europeans. Warfare broke out between the Bayagoula and Houma in 1700, and later that year the Bayougoula attacked the Mugulasha, initiating a devastating war between them. In 1706, the Bayagoula were destroyed as a power on the Mississippi River when the Taensa, their guests, turned on them and destroyed much of what was left of the

tribe. The remaining Bayougoula merged with the Houma in the 1730s. Neither they nor the Mugulasha remained a distinct group after that time.

The Okelousa were identified by La Page Du Pratz as being from an area "west of and above Pointe Coupee" (1975 [1774]:317). Beyond this brief reference, however, little is known of the group than that they were allied with the Ouacha and Chawasha (Swanton 1911:302). Apparently, several of the earliest French settlers in the Pointe Coupee area took Okelousa wives (*Claitor's Publishing Division* 1975:194). Some question still remains as to their identification as a separate entity from the Opelousas, although Swanton emphatically states that they are a separate tribal entity (Swanton 1911:30).

There is considerably more documentary information on the Chitimacha, who retain their tribal identity today. Their first contact with Europeans apparently occurred in 1702, for La Harpe notes that in August of that year Bienville learned of a raid on the Chitimacha by a group of Canadians and Indians led by St. Denis (La Harpe 1971:41). This marked the beginning of a long period of hostilities between the Chitimacha and the French. In 1706 a group of Chitimacha, having failed in an attempt to attack the Bayagoula, killed the priest St. Cosme and three other Frenchmen somewhere on the Mississippi River (La Harpe 1971:54). Bienville immediately asked the other Indian groups of the region to join in a war on the Chitimacha, and in March of 1707 St. Denis led a party of French Canadians, Bayagoulas, Biloxis, Chaouachas, and Natchitoches against a Chitimacha village. According to Penicaut the village was located on a lake near Bayou Lafourche (McWilliams 1953:71). He further states that 15 Chitimacha were killed and 40 were taken as prisoners.

Raids between the Chitimacha and Indian groups allied with the French continued until 1718 when Bienville made peace with the tribe, apparently at the request of M. Dubuisson, the manager of the French concession located on the Mississippi River at the old Bayagoula village (McWilliams 1953:216-219). Under the terms of this agreement, the Chitimacha were to abandon their village on or near Bayou Lafourche and settle on the Mississippi one league below the concession. Penicaut states that they moved to the new location two weeks later, and, in fact, maps of the period show a Chitimacha village in that area (Giardino 1984:253).

Swanton (1911) questions whether this represented the entire tribe or simply one portion of it. In 1739, a French officer with the De Nouaille party reported that the Chitimacha settlement on the Mississippi was relatively small because most of the tribe lived with the Atakapas (Swanton 1911:343). After that there are few references to the Chitimacha until the late-eighteenth century. In the 1770s Thomas Hutchins, at that time a cartographer in the British army, noted that there was a Chitimacha village located on Bayou Lafourche six leagues from its junction with the Mississippi River (Hutchins 1968:40). He also mentioned two other villages that probably represent Chitimacha settlements located on Bayou Teche. One of these, known as Mingo Luoac or Fire Chief, was situated 10 leagues above the mouth of the bayou. The other, called the village of Soulier Rouge or Red Shoes, was located three and a half leagues farther up (Hutchins 1968:46). Goodwin et al. (1985:207) place the first village on the east side of Irish Bend and the second in the vicinity of modern-day Charenton, the present location of the Chitimacha reservation.

By the early-nineteenth century the Charenton settlement seems to have become the principal village on Bayou Teche. The Cathcart expedition of 1819 described it as a row of palmetto-covered cabins, each 50 to 100 yards apart extending for almost 3 mi along the bayou (Newton 1985:108). They also noted two smaller Indian settlements in this area: one a hunting and fishing camp located on Grand Lake near Charenton, and the other, known as Postion's settlement, consisting of three huts located on Berwick Island on the shore of Six Mile Lake (Newton 1985:52-53; 126-127; Prichard et al. 1945:781-782, 837). The expedition recorded another Indian village, this one under the chief Jean Champlain, on Bayou Plaquemine southeast of the present study area (Newton 1985:16; Prichard et al. 1945:760). Although Cathcart does not identify it as a Chitimacha settlement, Gibson (1980:3-7), using land claims data, indicates that the occupants were Chitimacha. He also documents the presence of a second Chitimacha village of this period on nearby Bayou Jacob (Gibson 1980:7-10).

In the 1880s Gatschet conducted ethnographic research among the Chitimacha at Charenton and obtained a list of 15 historic villages (Gatschet 1883). Swanton later added to this list on the basis of his own research in 1907 and 1908 (Swanton 1911). Most of these settlements were located along Bayou Teche or on small streams in the Atchafalaya Basin, but



**Figure 3-2.** Section of the Delisle map of 1718 showing the position of the Houma. Note that False River is still a part of the Mississippi River at this point, directly across from the *écors* (“bluffs”) of modern-day Baton Rouge. (Delisle 1718).

three were situated on or near Bayou Plaquemine. Swanton notes the presence of a large Chitimacha village with a dance house at Grosse Tete, although it is unclear if he refers to the town or the bayou (1911:352).

When first contacted by Iberville in 1699, the Houma lived on the east side of the Mississippi River in southern Wilkinson County, Mississippi or northern West Feliciana Parish, Louisiana (Swanton 1911:285). At Baton Rouge, the Houma

established a territorial marker, "a maypole with no limbs, painted red, several fish heads and bear bones being tied to it as a sacrifice" (McWilliams 1981:65); this *baton rouge*, which may have been associated with a small Houma village, marked the boundary between Bayagoula and Houma territories. Iberville passed this site and went on to visit the principal Houma village, upriver near the Portage de la Croix (Figure 3-2). He noted approximately 140 huts in this village, centered around a 200 yard-wide circular plaza, home to about 350 men and their families (McWilliams 1981:69).

By 1706, the Houma had abandoned their village to the Tunica. It is not clear if this was the result of an attack by the latter group, or if the Houma simply left this area and moved south (Brain 1988:31). They moved first to New Orleans, and later west to Ascension Parish, where they established at least two villages. The "Grand" or "Great" Houma village has recently been identified as the site 16AN35. A second village, "Petite Houmas," may be associated with site 16AN3. In the late 1700's, the Houma sold these lands and moved to Terrebone Parish (Swanton 1911:290-291). The Houma are reported in the Lower Amite Basin as late 1771 (Weinstein 1974), but by

1777, Bartram (1928 [1792]) made no mention of any native group in this area. Remnants of the Houma still live in Terrebonne Parish today.

As noted above, the Tunica entered the area in 1706 from the Lower Yazoo Basin. Brain believes that they may have originally come from the upper Sunflower River area, where they were encountered by DeSoto's expedition in the province of Quizquiz (1988:21). Importantly, the Tunica also occupied a village on the west bank of the Mississippi, in present-day Pointe Coupee Parish (Brain 1988:30-34); undoubtedly they would have exploited the backswamp and levee-top resources inland from their village. Facing pressure from more aggressive groups to the north, including the Natchez, the Tunica moved to a new location on Tunica Bayou in 1731, downstream on the east bank of the river. Allied to the French, the Tunica fired on a British expedition heading upriver in 1764, and had to flee their village for the safety of Mobile. They returned later that year to Pointe Coupee, settling on the opposite (east) side from the growing French settlements there. By the 1790's, most of the tribe had moved to the area of present-day Marksville, and have remained there ever since.

## CHAPTER 4

# THE EURO-AMERICAN PAST

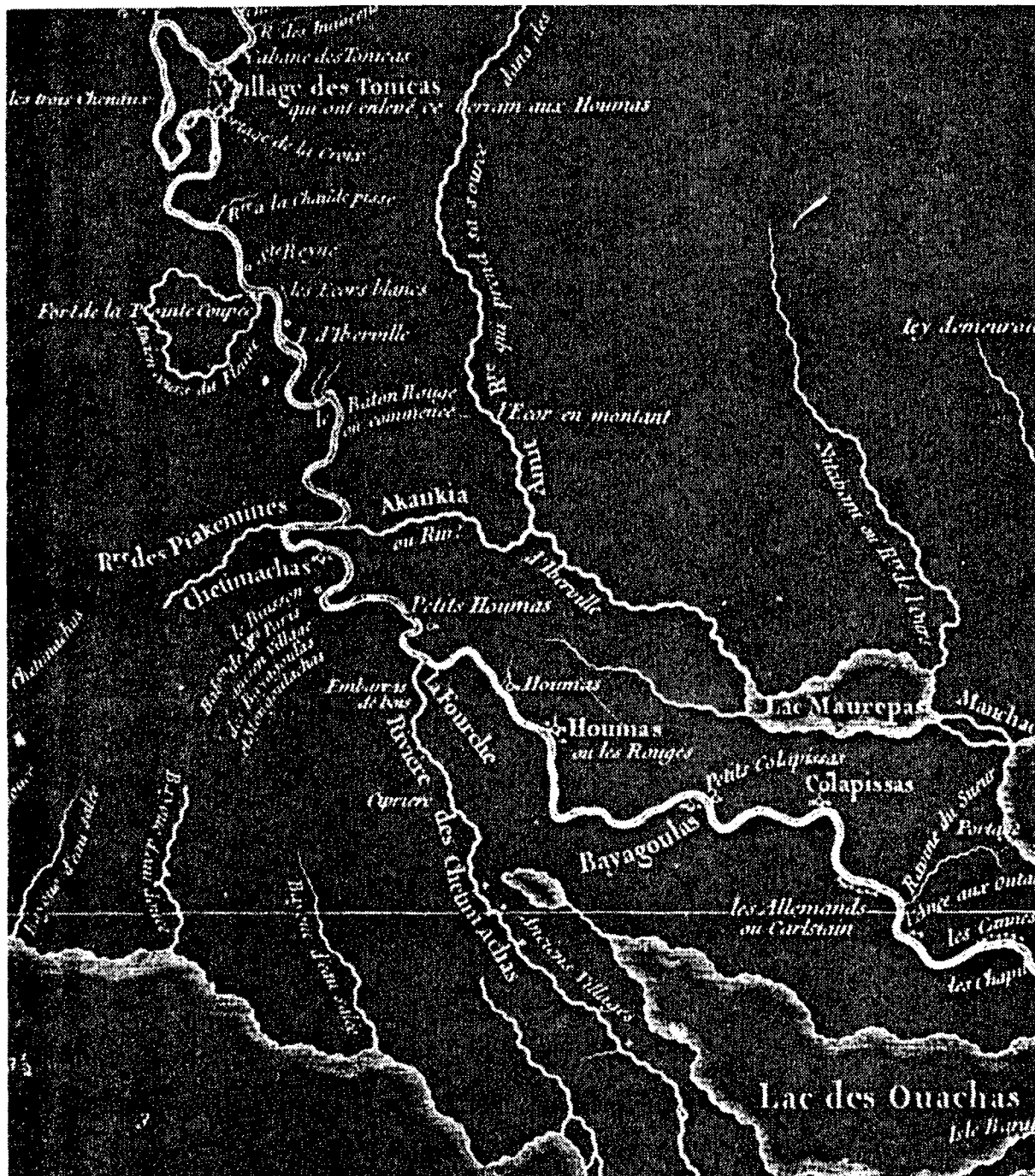
### *Colonial Period, A.D. 1542-1800*

The Euro-American presence in Louisiana began with the passing of the beleaguered remnants of Hernando DeSoto's expedition down the Mississippi River en route to the Gulf of Mexico. The Native American occupants of the Lower Valley apparently did not entirely welcome their presence, and the expedition was harassed much of the way down the river. Swanton (1946:108, 204) states that the expedition was attacked by Indians from the eastern Atchafalaya region, probably the Oucha or Chawasha of the Lafourche, but it is not known what his sources are for this identification (Lee 1998:1). No further European intrusions were made in the region until the expedition of Rene Cavalier, Sieur de la Salle, who sailed down the Mississippi Valley from Canada in 1682 and claimed the entire valley for France. An attempt by La Salle to establish a French colony on the Gulf Coast in 1684 failed, and the region remained uninhabited by Europeans until 1699, when the party of Pierre Le Moyne, Sieur de Iberville, and his brother Jean-Baptiste Le Moyne, Sieur de Bienville, settled near present-day Biloxi. Iberville led an expedition up the Mississippi River to the Red River mouth and back that same year, noting the presence of Bayou Lafourche (McWilliams 1953:23). Along the way, he was convinced by his Indian guides to avoid a long stretch of river by taking a portage that cut through the neck of an elongated point (Figure 4-1). The area was subsequently christened Pointe Coupée (Cutoff Point).

The first European settlement near the study area was established in 1712 by French trappers at Pointe Coupée near the site of the principal Tunica village (Davis 1967). In 1717, Bienville established a *poste* here, and began offering land grants to settle in the area. After the French disaster at Fort Rosalie in 1729, a fort was established at Pointe Coupée to protect settlers from the Natchez, who were ravaging much of the Lower Valley below Natchez. The Pointe Coupée settlement was augmented at this time by refugees fleeing the Natchez rampage (Hall 1992:247). The fort was a viable military post until 1810, when St. Francisville and Baton Rouge fell under the domination of the United States. One of the post buildings, however, had begun to be used as a parish courthouse. When it burned in 1846, the parish police jury selected a spot on False River for the new structure. This eventually became New Roads, the Pointe Coupée Parish seat. Construction of the original post was followed by the St. Francis Church, among the first churches in Louisiana, built nearby in 1738 (Costello 1999:5). Rebuilt in 1760, the church was swallowed by the Mississippi River in 1891; a new edifice was built upriver from this location in that year. Tobacco was the earliest crop grown for cash by the European settlers at Pointe Coupée, followed by indigo during the Spanish stewardship of Louisiana (1769-1803; Maygarden 1994:53).

The area that is now Baton Rouge was first settled by Captain Bernard Diron Dartaguet in 1718, at the boundary between the territories of the Bayagoula





**Figure 4-1. Section of the D’Anville map of 1732 showing the study area (D’Anville 1732).**

and Houma, marked by a red pole (*baton rouge*) planted in the bank of the Mississippi. A few concessions were granted to French settlers in the years that followed, especially on the east bank of the Mississippi, but many of these proved unsuccessful; the initial colonization of Baton Rouge by Dartaguette was abandoned by 1733. The Pointe Coupee settle-

ments on the Mississippi and the western bank of False River, however, proved surprisingly resilient, and represent some of the oldest continually occupied lands in Louisiana. Around 1717 the French government abandoned their colonizing efforts to the control of private enterprise. The Company of the Indes, however, was not any more successful, and

settlement in the area stagnated until the end of the Seven Years' War in 1763. Under the subsequent Treaty of Paris, France ceded Florida, including the Florida Parishes, to the British, and the rest of Louisiana to Spain.

Suddenly finding themselves neighbors on the Gulf Coast, both the British and Spanish governments scrambled to increase settlement in their newly acquired territories. Both built forts on the Mississippi River at the boundary of their territories at Bayou Manchac. British West Florida (which included the Florida Parishes), administered from Pensacola, began offering free land grants to British military veterans. The onset of the American Revolution accelerated the growth of the Florida Parish settlements, as Loyalists began to flee the eastern seaboard. Spanish policy, however, was intent on populating Louisiana with Catholics of any national origin, and recruited French, Germans, Acadians (newly expelled from Canada by the British), and Canary Islanders (Isleños). Both the British and Spanish governments required that the land be developed within a certain period of time, or it would become forfeit. Settlement began to burgeon in the region, and tobacco and indigo plantations began to spread along the Mississippi. Ultimately, the British colony could not compete with the growth of Spanish Louisiana, and British control of West Florida was ended by the Spanish takeover of British forts in Baton Rouge and on Bayou Manchac in 1779. Spanish troops from the fort at Pointe Coupee participated in this action, capturing British posts at Thompson's Creek and the Amite River (Maygarden 1994:113).

Spain began to encourage emigrants of all types into the area after this point, and the first major influx of English-speaking settlers began. American settlers from the eastern seaboard, Scots, Irish, and English began to settle the area, and the "frontier economy," dominated by subsistence farming, hunting and fishing, began to be pushed out of prime agricultural areas by practitioners of the "plantation economy" (Lee 1998:19). Cash crops were the primary product of the plantation economy, driven by a system of slave labor. Cotton had supplanted indigo by the first decade of the 1800's (Pitot 1979:123), and later vied with sugar as the primary crop of the Pointe Coupee/False River area.

The Pointe Coupee area was the scene of one of the most serious slave insurrection conspiracies to have occurred in Colonial Louisiana. African-descended slaves made up the majority of the popula-

tion in the area; in 1763, around 2000 free whites and 7000 slaves were reported here (Pittman 1973:34). During Spanish colonial times, whites in the district were terrorized by repeated slave conspiracies and minor uprisings. A major conspiracy was uncovered among slaves of Mina and Bambara descent in 1791 (Maygarden 1994:53). The best-known uprising, however, was the 1795 slave conspiracy, inspired in part by the French Revolution and Jacobean ideals. Rumors of the rebellion led to wholesale arrests not just of slaves, but also among free whites who were believed to be involved in the conspiracy. If fully developed, this conspiracy would have thrown much of Spanish Louisiana into turmoil, setting the stage for a French invasion (Hall 1992). Unrest continued here well into the early 1800's; in 1811, open revolt erupted among the slaves, and approximately 500 slaves began a march toward New Orleans, killing and burning their way down the Mississippi River. However, the insurrection was quickly suppressed by troops led by General Wade Hampton, who killed a large number of the slaves and captured the remainder (Holmes 1970:355).

It is unclear what effect the immigration of French-speaking Acadians in the late 1700's into south Louisiana had on the False River/Point Coupee area. Castille (1983:5-2) posits an immigration of Acadian settlers into the east bank of False River, an area known as "The Island," during the late 1700's. However, Costello (1999) believes that most French names from the Pointe Coupee area are derived from non-Acadian families. The few Acadian names he does recognize from the St. Francis church records are believed to come from Bayou Lafourche families, having migrated to the Island between the World Wars (Costello 1999:6-7).

#### *American Period, A.D. 1800-Present*

In 1800, Spain ceded Louisiana to the French, the colony having become a financial liability. France held Louisiana for less than three years, however, before Napoleon reluctantly sold it to the United States. Louisiana was named as the eighteenth state in 1812, incorporating the southern portion of the Louisiana colony as well as the Florida Parishes, who had rebelled for their independence against the West Florida government in 1810 (Meyers 1976:97). American immigrants poured over the Mississippi River in the years that followed, and built plantations on the Mississippi and its tributaries from New Orleans to Missouri. Although land grants were settled as early as 1787 on the Fordoche distributary within the study

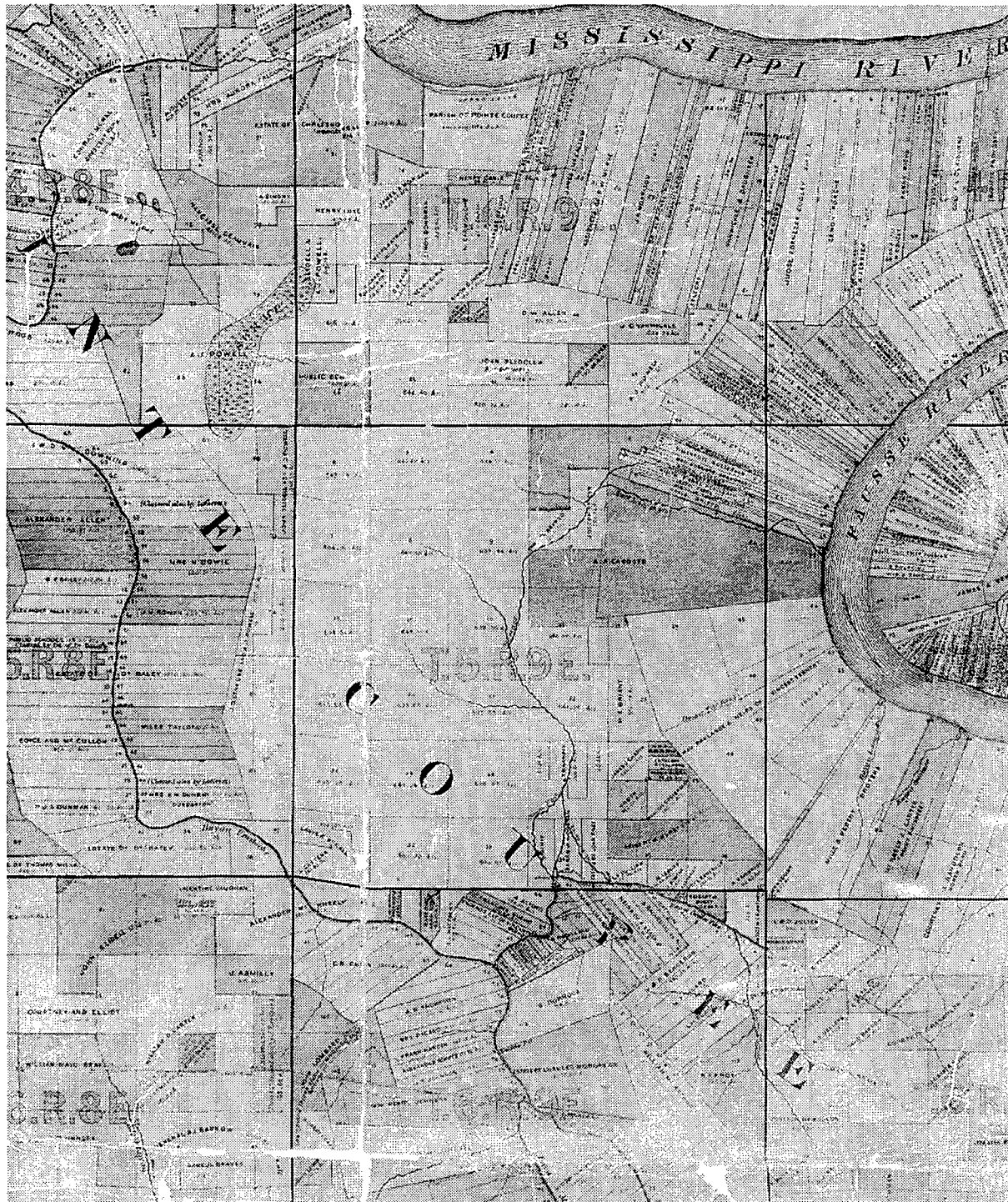


Figure 4-2. Section of the McCollough map of 1859 for Pointe Coupee Parish.

area (Castille 1982:1), settlement on these interior drainages did not begin in earnest until the first half of the nineteenth century (Figures 4-2 and 4-3). Much of the land on the Fordoche distributary system was initially bought by two New Orleans land speculators ("land sharks"), Laurent Millaudon and Andrew

Hodge. They used poor and illiterate people to lay claim to the land and purchase it at a minimal price. Soon thereafter, the land would be signed over to Millaudon and Hodge, circumventing laws designed to prevent speculation (Comeaux 1972:14). Most of the early plantations were established by Anglo-

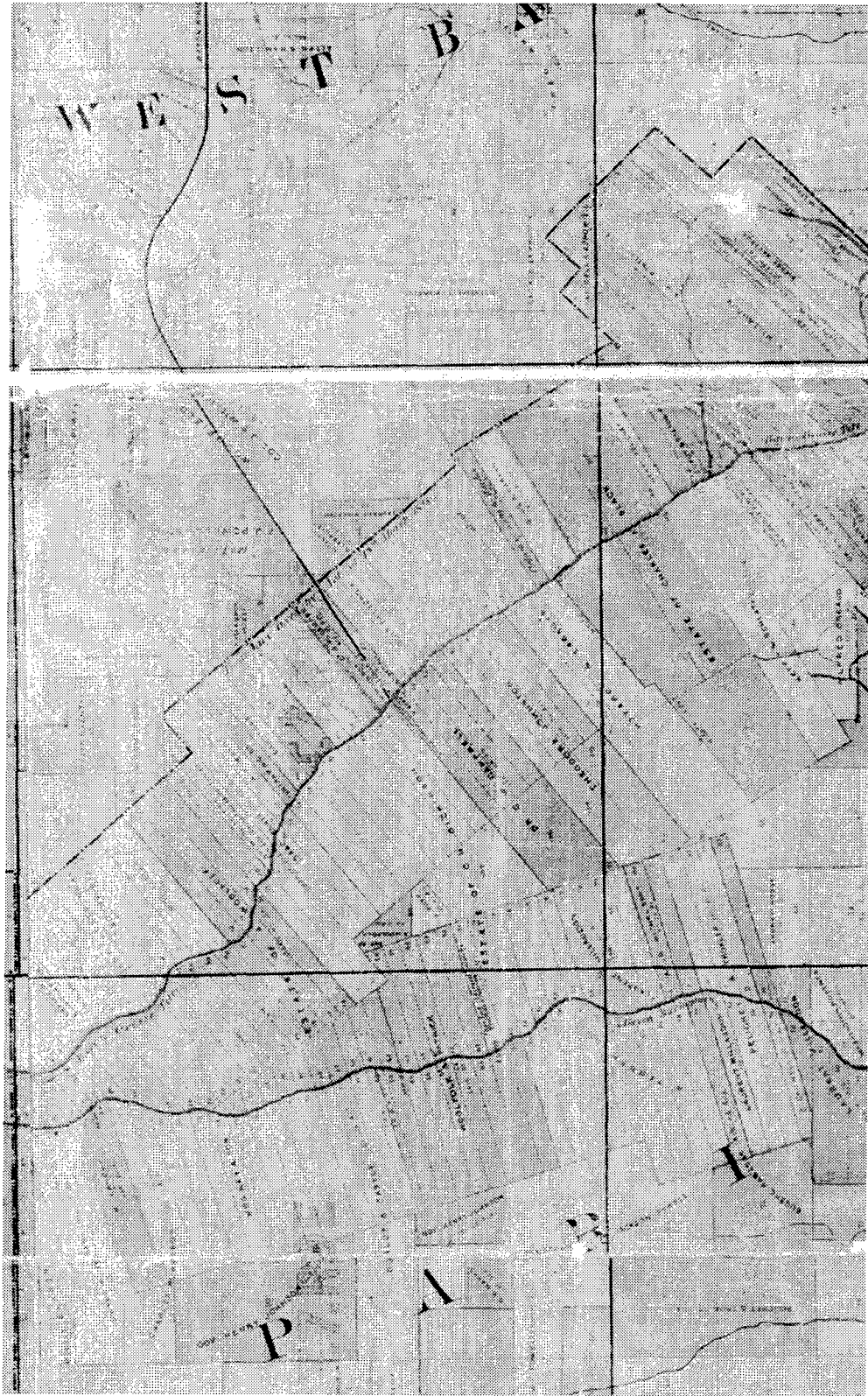


Figure 4-3. Section of the McCollough map of 1859 for Iberville Parish.



Americans, with a few German families. Few distinctively French names appear on the McCollough maps of 1859, and many of these appear to be French-descended families from the Pointe Coupee area. In fact, the Fordoche drainage represents one of the only areas where non-Acadian, slave-driven "plantation agriculture" intruded into the Atchafalaya Basin (Comeaux 1972:14-15).

Sugar, now more profitable with advances in granulating techniques, became the primary crop south of Baton Rouge, while the primary product of the Mississippi Valley north of Baton Rouge was cotton. Plantations on False River produced both cotton and sugar cane, the latter becoming more dominant in the late twentieth century. In the more interior lands of the study area, sugar has long predominated on the higher levees. Mound Plantation, established by Austin Woolfolk in the 1840's at Rosedale, was one of the earliest and biggest producers of sugar in the area. The Woolfolk family operated a sugar mill and harvested cane here throughout the 1800's, and were consistently among the top producers of sugar and molasses in Iberville Parish. By the crop year 1853 - 1854, the Woolfolk family of Mound Plantation was among the top thirty sugar growers (as measured in hogsheads) in the entire state of Louisiana (Champomier 1846, 1854). Mound Plantation continued as a major sugar producer well into the twentieth century, and the fields around the house built by Austin Woolfolk still produce sugar cane. Other major sugar producers on the Fordoche system included Captain Jessee Hart's Sunnyside Plantation on Bayou Grosse Tete near present-day Slacks; Woolfolk and Patrick's West Oaks Plantation on Bayou Maringouin; and the Slacks Brothers' Center Plantation, a relative latecomer, carved from parts of Mound Plantation in the 1890's. These properties were among the more intensively examined areas in the sample survey of the current study.

The onset of the American Civil War and the invasion of the region by Federal forces brought a disruption of plantation life, and the eastern Atchafalaya Basin was contested by Confederate and Union forces from 1862 to the end of the war. The fall of Port Hudson in 1863 largely signaled the end of Southern resistance in the eastern half of the study area. Little physical damage occurred in the study area as compared to other regions of Louisiana, but the False River area was used as a staging point for Federal campaigns up the Red River and against Port Hudson. On September 28, 1863, Confederate cavalry and infantry under General Thomas Green crossed

the Atchafalaya River and attacked and Federal troops defending the bridge over Bayou Fordoche in the northwest portion of the project area. In a decisive victory, Green succeeded in capturing cannon, wagons, medical stores, small arms and other supplies, taking nearly 500 Federal prisoners. Bad weather delayed a response from the Union post at Morganza, and Confederate troops were allowed to withdraw with relatively few losses. This represents one of the few Confederate successes in Louisiana in 1863 (Winters 1963:297).

Looting was commonplace in the area around New Roads and Point Coupee during the Civil War. "Jayhawkers," loosely organized bands of men with ostensibly Union sympathies, terrorized the populations of Iberville and Pointe Coupee parishes during the early months of 1865. Despised by Confederate and Federal forces alike, the jayhawkers were hunted down and dispersed by Confederate troops during a truce designed for this purpose with Federal forces in the area (Winters 1963:413). Economic disruption caused by warfare and the emancipation of the labor force impoverished the eastern Atchafalaya Basin until the end of Federal occupation. The year 1861 was an exceptional year for the production of sugar in Louisiana, and most planters produced good crops. In excess of 459,000 hogsheads of sugar were produced in that year, a record yield. By 1864, however, Louisiana produced only 6,668 hogsheads. In the crop year 1869-1870, most plantations in Iberville and Pointe Coupee Parishes were not producing sugar; in fact, only two of sixteen plantations listed on the Fordoche/Grosse Tete/Maringouin system in that year produced sugar or molasses (Bouchereau 1870). Increased flooding due to the removal of rafts on the Atchafalaya in the 1840's and 1850's (especially the disastrous 1874 flood) contributed to the retardation of post-war agricultural development, particularly in the western part of the study area (Comeaux 1972:17). This time of economic hardship also led to neglect of the levee system. Flooding due to crevassing on the Mississippi River had devastating effects in the eastern portions of the study area in the decades following the Civil War (Costello 1999:17-18).

However, by the beginning of the 1880's, the plantation economy was once again primary in its regional importance on the higher levees of the Fordoche distributary system, False River and the Mississippi River. Agricultural labor had become reorganized under the share cropping and tenant farmer

systems, replacing slave labor. Cotton and sugar cane were again the primary product, rivaled only by timber from the swamplands to the west. Float logging and rail transport made towns with timber mills (such as Lottie and Slacks) thriving concerns during the late 1800s and beginning of the 1900's (Castille et al. 1996:12). The gathering and curing of Spanish moss was also a major industry in Point Coupee and Iberville parishes, and at least three "moss gins" were run in the study area on the eastern edge of the Atchafalaya Basin in the 1930's (Costello 1999:32; Comeaux 1972:86-87).

Sugar still dominates the wide natural levees of the Fordoche distributary system, but in recent decades soybeans and corn have become common in the northern stretches in Pointe Coupee Parish. Like the levee lands in the interior of the study area, sugar is now the dominant agricultural product of the Mississippi levees and False River area. Cotton agriculture continued in the False River area well into the late twentieth century; in 1904, Pointe Coupee Parish produced large quantities of cotton, but almost no sugar cane. However, sugar cane became more and more prevalent in the middle decades of the twentieth century, and the "cotton culture" was largely extinct by the closing of the Southern Cotton Oil Company plant in New Roads in 1979 (Costello

1999:31). This decline in cotton production can be traced to several developments, among them the increased start-up costs of growing cotton, as well as the boll-weevil and other pests. Increased mechanization as well as improved transportation led to the reduction in the numbers of sugar mills and cotton gins in the twentieth century (Maygarden 1994:68-69).

Development of the area has continued into this century, as the coming of the railroads and now highways has opened up communication between much of this region and the larger world. The greatest impact to the region as a whole has probably come in the last 60 years or so with the advent of oil and gas exploration, as well as chemical production. Much of the population of the area depends to a great extent on the gas and oil industries, and while the landscape within the immediate project area has not been altered drastically due to the subsequent boom-and-bust economy, the environmental effects of oil and gas exploration has been devastating to areas further toward the coast. Large areas of marsh and swamp have succumbed to saltwater intrusion, erosion, and subsidence, accelerated by land clearance, boat traffic, and canal construction. Terrebonne Parish alone lost 116,000 ac between 1955 and 1978 (Wicker et al. 1980).



## CHAPTER 5

# RESEARCH DESIGN

The intent of the present study was to provide information on the cultural resources of the Upper Atchafalaya Backwater area in order to aid in assessing the potential impacts of the proposed project. The Scope of Work specified that the research was to be conducted in three phases: 1) development of a research design, 2) sample survey along proscribed right-of-ways, and 3) analysis and report preparation. The research design was to summarize existing information on the archaeology, history and geology of the study area and to develop a model of prehistoric and historic settlement to the area. This model was then to be evaluated using data collected during the sample survey.

The model of human settlement developed here should be viewed as a preliminary formulation which over the course of research in this area will be refined and expanded. As an initial step in the development of this model the present study examined a series of hypotheses concerning human adaptation to the study area. The theoretical basis of these hypotheses came primarily from the fields of cultural ecology and economic anthropology. In this view the settlement system, which consists of the behavioral processes related to settlement selection and use, is one of the subsystems of culture through which humans interact with the environment. Related to it is the subsistence system, which focuses on the selection and scheduling of food resource use. In pre-Industrial societies decisions made in these two subsystems of culture are closely integrated. It is assumed that

the primary goal of these decisions is the satisfaction of basic human needs such as food and shelter with a minimum of effort. Beyond this basic requirement cultures define a variety of other goals which they consider desirable and which in turn will have an impact on the settlement system. In Industrial societies the subsistence system often becomes part of a market economy, and market factors have a major effect on the settlement system. In these cases theories derived from economic geography may be more applicable.

The following hypotheses are drawn from various sources, including previous archaeological research in the Mississippi Deltaic Plain (Gagliano et al. 1984; Gagliano et al. 1979; Gibson 1978; Kelley et al. 2000; Kniffen 1936; McIntire 1958; Weinstein and Kelley 1992; Wiseman et al. 1979), general models of the behavior of hunter-gatherers (Binford 1980; Jochim 1976), the work of cultural geographers in southern Louisiana (Knipmeyer 1956; Rehder 1971; Comeaux 1972), and locational models developed in economic geography (Berry 1967; Christaller 1933; Haggett 1965). Where possible a series of alternative hypotheses have been offered for each problem topic.

### *Prehistoric Settlement Systems*

#### *1. Subsistence-Settlement Strategies*

**1a-1. Hypothesis:** Late Archaic and Poverty Point groups that occupied the study area were mobile hunter-



gatherers who employed what Binford (1980) has characterized as a foraging strategy. Their sites will represent short-term residential bases occupied by small groups. Binford (1980:9) describes the residential base as "the locus out of which foraging parties originate and where most processing, manufacturing, and maintenance activities take place."

**Test Implications:** Sites dating to these periods will be small and exhibit low artifact densities, but a variety of tool types will be represented. The short-term nature of the sites will also be reflected in the lack of midden development.

**1a-2. Hypothesis:** Late Archaic and Poverty Point groups followed a logistically organized collector strategy (Binford 1980). Under this strategy a group occupied fewer residential bases and sent out task groups to obtain resources. Sites associated with this strategy would include residential bases and field camps established by task groups.

**Test Implications:** Under this strategy residential bases were occupied for longer periods of time and will exhibit higher artifact densities and the development of at least some midden deposits. Field camps were associated with specific resource extraction activities, such as shellfishing, and will exhibit low artifact densities and a limited range of tool types.

**1b-1. Hypothesis:** Tchula through Coles Creek period groups in the study area practiced a mixture of hunting-and-gathering and horticulture. The hunting-and-gathering portion of the economy would be categorized as a logistically organized collector strategy. Horticulture became increasingly important through time, but never represented a major portion of the subsistence base.

**Test Implications:** Residential bases dating to these periods will exhibit higher artifact densities and some midden development, and will generally be larger than those of the Late Archaic and Poverty Point periods. Field camps will be associated with specific resource extraction activities, such as hunting, and exhibit low artifact densities and a limited range of tool types.

**1b-2. Hypothesis:** Tchula through Coles Creek period groups in the study area practiced a mixture of hunting-and-gathering and horticulture, but occupied year-round villages. Task groups continued to establish field camps for resource extraction.

**Test Implications:** Villages dating to these periods will be larger, exhibit higher artifact densities, and more substantial midden deposits than residential base camps. Some of the larger villages may also contain earth or shell mounds reflecting a greater investment of time and energy than a base camp. Field camps will be similar to those of the previous periods.

**1c-1. Hypothesis:** Mississippi period groups in the study area practiced a mixture of agriculture and hunting-and-gathering. These groups occupied year-round villages or hamlets, and task groups established field camps for resource extraction. Agriculture was a major part of the subsistence economy, but it was supplemented by hunting-and-gathering.

**Test Implications:** Habitation sites dating to this period will exhibit higher artifact densities and more substantial midden deposits than residential base camps, but they may range in size from single households to large villages. Some of the larger villages may also contain earth mounds reflecting a greater investment of time and energy than a base camp. Field camps of this period will be similar to those of the previous periods.

**1c-2. Hypothesis:** Mississippi period groups in the study area practiced a mixture of hunting-and-gathering and horticulture. The hunting-and-gathering portion of the economy followed a logistically organized collector strategy, and horticulture never represented a major portion of the subsistence base.

**Test Implications:** Residential bases dating to this period will be smaller, exhibit lower artifact densities, and less midden development than villages. Field camps will be similar to those of the previous periods.

## **2. Site Locational Factors**

**2a-1. Hypothesis:** The preferred locations for all types of habitation sites (residential bases, villages and hamlets) in the study area were the natural levees of active or abandoned Mississippi River channels or the upper portions of crevasse or distributary systems.

**Test Implications:** Sites of these types will occur more frequently on these landforms than on the distal ends of crevasse or distributary systems.

**2a-2. Hypothesis:** Habitation sites were located on all portions of crevasse or distributary systems.

**Test Implications:** Sites of these types will occur throughout crevasse or distributary systems.

**2b-1. Hypothesis:** Most habitation sites located on crevasse or distributary natural levees were established after the channel had become inactive due to the hazards of living near active channels and to the greater biological productivity of inactive ones.

**Test Implications:** The majority of habitation sites will be resting on natural levee deposits and not stratified within them.

**2b-2. Hypothesis:** Habitation sites were established adjacent to active and inactive crevasse and distributary channels.

**Test Implications:** Habitation sites will be resting on and stratified within natural levee deposits.

**2c-1. Hypothesis:** Villages with single earthen mounds functioned as local political and religious centers. These sites were located on the natural levees of Mississippi River channels or the upper portions of crevasse or distributary systems along communication routes.

**Test implications:** Villages with single mounds will be less frequent than those without them, and they will be located on the upper portions of crevasse or distributary systems near major branches in the system.

**2c-2. Hypothesis:** Mound construction was not related to a site's position in the local political hierarchy. Sites with single earthen mounds were located on the natural levees of Mississippi River channels and throughout crevasse or distributary systems.

**Test implications:** Villages with single mounds will be as frequent as those without them, and they will be located throughout crevasse or distributary systems.

**2d-1. Hypothesis:** Contemporary villages with single mounds were located at regular distances from one another as a result of sociopolitical factors.

**Test implications:** The spacing between contemporary villages with single mounds will exhibit

regularities which cannot be explained by environmental variables.

**2d-2. Hypothesis:** The location of villages with single mounds was related primarily to environmental variables, such as the width of the natural levee, the condition of a nearby crevasse or distributary channel, or the distance to a major stream junction.

**Test implications:** The spacing between contemporary villages with single mounds can be explained largely by environmental variables.

**2e-1. Hypothesis:** The location of all non-mound sites will be affected by both socio-political and environmental factors. More socially complex societies will evince non-mound sites that are larger and located closer to the centers of political power. Lower order sites in less complex societies will be drawn away from socio-political centers and disperse across the landscape to take greater advantage of subsistence opportunities.

**Test implications:** Lower-order (non-mound) sites will be located nearer higher-order (mound) sites in earlier periods than in the Coles Creek and Mississippi periods.

**2e-2. Hypothesis:** The location of non-mound sites will be affected primarily by environmental factors.

**Test implications:** Lower-order (non-mound) sites will be spread evenly across the landscape relative to higher-order (mound) sites.

**2f-1. Hypothesis:** The adoption of corn agriculture as a significant portion of aboriginal subsistence during the Mississippi period led to shifts in settlement strategies.

**Test implications:** Compared to earlier periods, a larger proportion of Mississippi period sites will be found near the trunk channel levees and the upper ends of the crevasse/distributary systems, positioned to take advantage of the lighter soils associated with these landforms.

**2f-2. Hypothesis:** Site location preferences will remain unchanged during the Mississippi period.

**Test implications:** The same proportion of Mississippi period sites will appear on the lower ends of distributaries and crevasse channels as in earlier periods

**2g-1. Hypothesis:** During the Coles Creek and Mississippi periods more complex settlement hierarchies developed in the study area. The sites occupying the upper level of the hierarchies were located on the larger natural levees on important communication routes.

**Test implications:** A few multiple mound sites with principal occupations dating to the Coles Creek and Mississippi periods will be present on the larger natural levees near major stream channels.

**2g-2. Hypothesis:** The sites occupying the upper level of the Coles Creek and Mississippi period settlement hierarchies in the study area were located primarily to control critical environmental resources, such as fishing or hunting grounds.

**Test implications:** A few multiple mound sites with principal occupations dating to the Coles Creek and Mississippi periods will be present in proximity to the more biologically productive distal ends of crevasse or distributary systems.

**2h-1. Hypothesis:** Soil type, or at least soil texture, will be a strong factor in the determination of prehistoric site location on natural levees.

**Test Implications:** A strong statistical correlation between soil type and prehistoric occupation should exist.

**2h-2. Hypothesis:** Prehistoric sites within the study area will be situated without regard to soil type, the more important factor being the position on the natural levee crest.

**Test Implications:** Sites will tend to occur on the upper portions of levees without regard to the soils on these portions.

### **3. Culture History**

**3a. Hypothesis:** Tchefuncte occupations in the study area were more closely related to sites to the east within the present meander belt of the Mississippi River than to those to the west along the abandoned Teche course of the Mississippi.

**Test implications:** Tchefuncte assemblages from sites in the study area will be more similar to those from Beau Mire phase sites (Weinstein and Rivet 1978) than to Lafayette phase sites (Ford and Quimby 1945).

**3b. Hypothesis:** Baytown and Early Coles Creek phases in the study area will be more similar to those from Red River region to the north than to coastal areas to the south.

**Test implications:** Baytown-Coles Creek assemblages in the area will bear more resemblance to the Baytown/Troyville and early Coles Creek material culture of the Red River and Natchez Bluffs regions to the north than to coeval assemblages of the coastal zone (Whitehall and Bayou Cutler phases).

**3c. Hypothesis:** Mississippi period sites in the study area were occupied by groups associated with Plaquemine culture rather than the Pensacola variant of Mississippian culture found farther to the southeast.

**Test implications:** Mississippi period assemblages in the study area will be more similar to those from Medora phase sites (Quimby 1951) than to Bayou Petre phase sites (Kniffen 1936).

### **Historic Settlement**

#### **1. Settlement Patterns**

**1a. Hypothesis:** Although a few land grants were established during the Colonial period, it is not until the Early American period (1800-1865) that settlement of the study area began to increase significantly. Substantial numbers of sugar plantations were established in the area, initially along the high natural levees of the Mississippi River and False River, but later in the period they spread to the natural levees of the larger distributary systems. Small farms also spread along the distributary natural levees during this period, and camps for logging, hunting, or fishing were established on small distributaries in the swamps.

**Test implications:** Sites of these types will be located on the landforms noted above.

**1b. Hypothesis:** After the Civil War many of the plantations and small farms located on the smaller distributary natural levees were abandoned due to increased flooding from the Atchafalaya River. Plantations continued to operate along the Mississippi River and False River, but these became larger and fewer in number during the early twentieth century. The number of sugar mills also decreased after 1900 as they were replaced by large, centralized factories.

Commercial cypress lumbering increased significantly after 1890 due primarily to the depletion of timber in the northeast and Great Lakes regions and the expansion of the railroads. It persisted until about 1930 by which time much of the timber had been cut. Sawmills and mill towns were established along the main railroad lines which followed the higher natural levees. Camps were established on small distributaries in the swamps or, later on quarterboats.

Communities spread along some smaller natural levees and along railroad lines. Spacing between communities was related to the location of communication routes and economic factors, such as travel time to market. Some communities from the previous period, such as Grosse Tete, Maringouin, and Fordoche, developed into small towns because of their location on railroad lines.

**Test implications:** Sites of these types will be located on the landforms noted above.

**1c. Hypothesis:** Rehder (1971) identified three patterns among contemporary sugar plantations within the study area: a linear pattern along the Mississippi River, a "nodal-block" pattern along Bayou Lafourche, and a "bayou-block" pattern along the smaller streams south of Thibodaux. He attributed these patterns to a combination of physiographic and historical factors. These patterns should be reflected in the archaeological remains of plantations in the study area.

**Test implications:** Sites associated with sugar plantations should exhibit one of the three patterns identified by Rehder, depending on where they occur in the study area.

### **Research Methods**

#### **Field Methods**

In order to test the hypotheses presented above, a representative sample of the archaeological sites present in the study area was needed. The sampling design employed here was a stratified random sample. Data presented by Plog (1976:149-151) indicate that it is more efficient (offers greater precision) than simple random, systematic, or stratified systematic unaligned designs. Previous archeological research in the Mississippi Deltaic Plain and the distribution of known sites in the study area suggest that one type of landform, natural levee, is the location of the majority of human habitations. The remaining

geomorphic features: abandoned river channels and courses, backswamps, and crevasse and distributary channels, are thought to represent resource extraction zones and transportation routes rather than habitation locales. In addition, some of these geomorphic features have changed significantly during the course of human occupation of the region, and their present distribution may have little relationship to patterns of human utilization of the area in the past. Furthermore, the Scope of Work provided by the Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, called for research restricted to a 500 foot right-of-way centered on Bayous Grosse Tete and Maringouin, Choctaw Bayou, and the Lighthouse and Portage Canals. In the final analysis, however, well-developed, high probability natural levees can only be discerned for Bayous Maringouin and Grosse Tete. For these reasons, the present study focused on natural levees of these two streams, part of the Fordoche distributary system mapped by Britsch (1998). These right-of-ways served as the sampling strata for this model.

Most of the elevated natural levees in the study area have been cleared and are in sugar cane or soybean cultivation. At the beginning of the survey the sugar cane was 6-7 ft high in many places, and too dense to permit adequate survey of these fields. However, because of the field rotation cycle used in planting sugar cane approximately one third of the fields are left fallow. Where possible the survey focused on fallow and newly-planted fields due to the enhanced site visibility and ease of survey that they provided. When fallow fields were not available, pastures were selected for survey. During the late portion of the survey, however, more and more harvested fields were available, which provided more access to favorable, high probability lands, although at the expense of ground-surface visibility due to disturbance and cane chaff. The selection process also had to consider landowner permission, so portions of this process were not random. When sites were identified, an effort was made to examine as much of the site as possible to determine boundaries. However, landowners expressed concern over damage to their field roads, so several sites were not completely available for subsurface testing and boundary delineation.

A total of 500 acres (203 hectares) was surveyed along the Fordoche distributary system (Figure 5-1). The survey was conducted by a single crew of four persons along transects spaced 30 m apart with shovel tests at 30 m intervals along each transect (Figure 5-2).

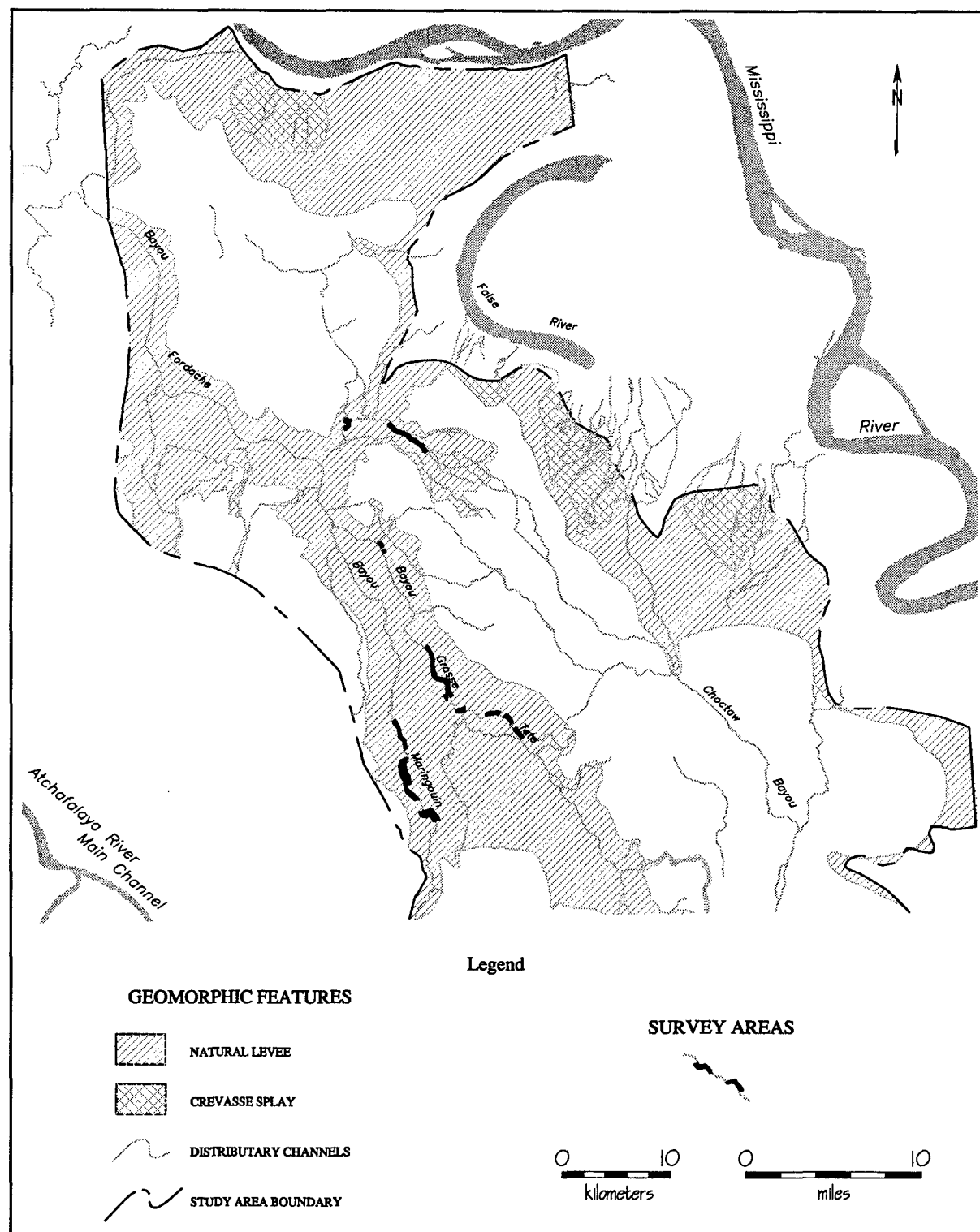


Figure 5-1. Distribution of sample survey areas.



**Figure 5-2.** Sample survey in harvested cane field at Center Plantation, near Maringouin, Louisiana. Date: 12 November 1999.

When a site was encountered, the following procedures were employed. First, if artifacts were present on the surface, an estimate of the site's limits was made through surface examination, and a surface collection was made. Systematic sub-surface testing was then conducted at intervals smaller than 30 m (usually 20 m), generally along two lines perpendicular to one another across the approximate center of the site. Soil from these tests was hand-sorted, as screening proved to be time-consuming. All cultural materials were collected for analysis with the exception of perishable materials, brick, mortar and amorphous iron pieces. Finally, a scaled sketch map was produced for each site, showing the locations of all sub-surface tests and important environmental, cultural, and physiographic features, such as canals, structures, and vegetation.

Three previously recorded sites were also reexamined during the fieldwork. These sites were selected primarily on the basis of their ability to provide data relevant to the hypotheses presented above, but other factors, such as the current state of knowledge of the site, landowner permission, and its po-

tential to provide information on the geomorphic history of the study area, were also considered.

#### *Analytical Methods*

Following completion of the fieldwork, all artifacts and other data were brought back to the laboratory for analysis. The analysis was guided by the need to address the various hypotheses posed previously. In particular, it was necessary to determine cultural components represented at each site, their approximate chronological position, and, if possible, the functional nature of each component.

Identification of the prehistoric cultural components and chronological position was based largely on the classification of diagnostic ceramic and lithic artifacts. All aboriginal ceramics recovered during the project were classified according to the type-variety system. Wheat et al. (1958) first developed the system for the southwestern United States. Phillips (1958) modified the system for use in the Southeast, and later (1970) employed it as the backbone of his lower Yazoo Basin research. It has since been used on a regular basis by arche-

ologists working in the Lower Mississippi Valley and adjacent areas.

Following ceramic classification, assessments of prehistoric site function were made on the basis of several lines of information including site size, depth of deposits, presence and nature of features, density of artifacts, and certain characteristics of the artifact assemblage. The latter included the functional categories of bone or stone tools present, the stages of bone or stone tool manufacture represented, the presence of ceramics, and the ceramic vessel forms represented.

Temporal identification of historic sites relied on established chronologies for historic artifact classes, particularly ceramics and glass, supplemented by documentary information such as maps and land ownership records. Functional assessments of these sites were made on the basis of a functional classification of historic artifacts as discussed by South (1977) and in previous CEI reports (Castille 1979; Castille et al. 1986), as well as documentary information.

### ***Interpretation***

Upon completion of the various analyses, the data generated by the present research were integrated with existing archeological and geomorphological data from the study area in order to develop a general characterization and assessment of the cultural resources. One aspect of this involved producing estimates of site density and distribution within the study area. These estimates were based on the re-

sults of the sample survey, and were compared with figures offered by Hunter et al. (1988), Pearson et al. (1989), Weinstein and Kelley (1992:366-368), and Kelley et al. (2000) for adjacent areas.

A second topic examined concerned the types and quantities of cultural resources which may be expected within the study area. The density estimates derived from the sample survey were used to extrapolate numbers of sites which should exist within the area. Where the data permitted, separate site densities and quantities were projected by culture period and/or site type. A third area of research focused on the utility of environmental variables such as soil type and position relative to major stream channels in predicting prehistoric site locations. Both the sample survey data and the previously recorded sites were used in this portion of the study. Another focus for research involved an assessment of the implications of the archaeological data for our understanding of the geomorphic history of the study area. The ages of the components identified at sites in the study area were compared to current models of the ages of the landforms in this area.

A final topic addressed by the study concerned the current condition of the cultural resource base of the area and its future condition if the proposed project is not carried out. This involved an assessment of all of the cultural resources within the study area, and, particularly, a consideration of the findings of the site revisits. Available information on rates of subsidence and site destruction through human activities were then used to assess the future condition of the resource base.

## CHAPTER 6

# RESULTS OF THE SAMPLE SURVEY

### *Introduction*

The sample survey of 500 ac (203 ha) located 47 archaeological sites (Figure 6-1). All but one were occupied in historic times, and 19 contained prehistoric components. These are described below by parish and site number. Recommendations are made for each site that follows.

### *Site Descriptions*

#### **16IV54 Little Four**

##### *Location and Description*

The Little Four site (16IV54) is located in cultivated fields just north and west of the junction of Louisiana Highways 76 and 3000 (Figure 6-2). The moderately dense historic scatter occupies the crest of the natural levee of Bayou Maringouin, and measures approximately 40 by 60 meters, long axis oriented north to south. Local soils are characterized as Commerce silt loams. A typical shovel test from Little Four consists of a dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) fine silty clay from 0 to 15 cm, over a brown (10YR5/3) silty clay loam running from 15 to 50cm. No cultural layers appear to exist below the plowzone. Shovel Tests (hereafter, ST) 1 through 5 produced brick fragments, historic ceramics, and container glass, mostly from the upper stratum, although STs 1 and 3 produced historic ceramics between 30 and 40 cm below surface.

Materials collected from the Little Four site include common whiteware and several pieces of glass (Table 6-1). Two pieces of common whiteware were decorated in the decalcomania style, dating between 1890 and 1930. Clear purple and clear yellow glass shards probably date to the early decades of the century as well.

### *Comments and Recommendations*

The Little Four site appears to date largely from the early decades of the twentieth century. Artifacts from this site, like many of the sites in the sample survey, appear to be largely confined to the surface and plowzone, and while some subsurface features could exist, no stratigraphy or true surface concentrations were noted that would suggest a need for further investigation. This site is an unlikely candidate to produce significant information.

#### **16IV55 Pink Trailer**

##### *Location and Description*

The Pink Trailer site (16IV55) lies about 180 m to the north and west of the Little Four site (16IV54), in a cultivated sugarcane field just west of Louisiana Highway 76 and Bayou Maringouin (Figure 6-3). This 80 by 140 m historic scatter is associated with a small cluster of structures apparently owned by the same family since at least the 1920's, according to local informants, and is probably the



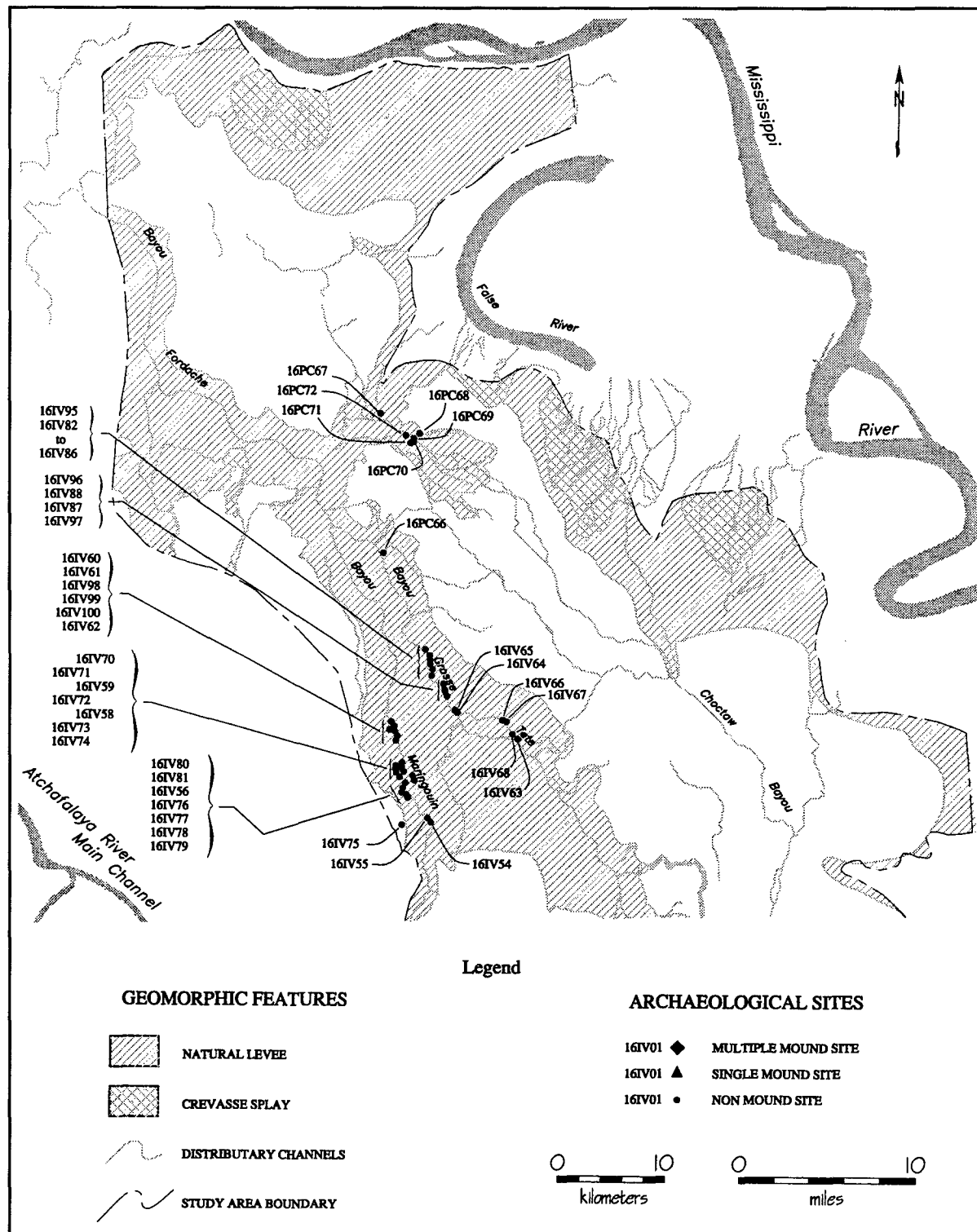


Figure 6-1. Archaeological sites located during the sample survey.

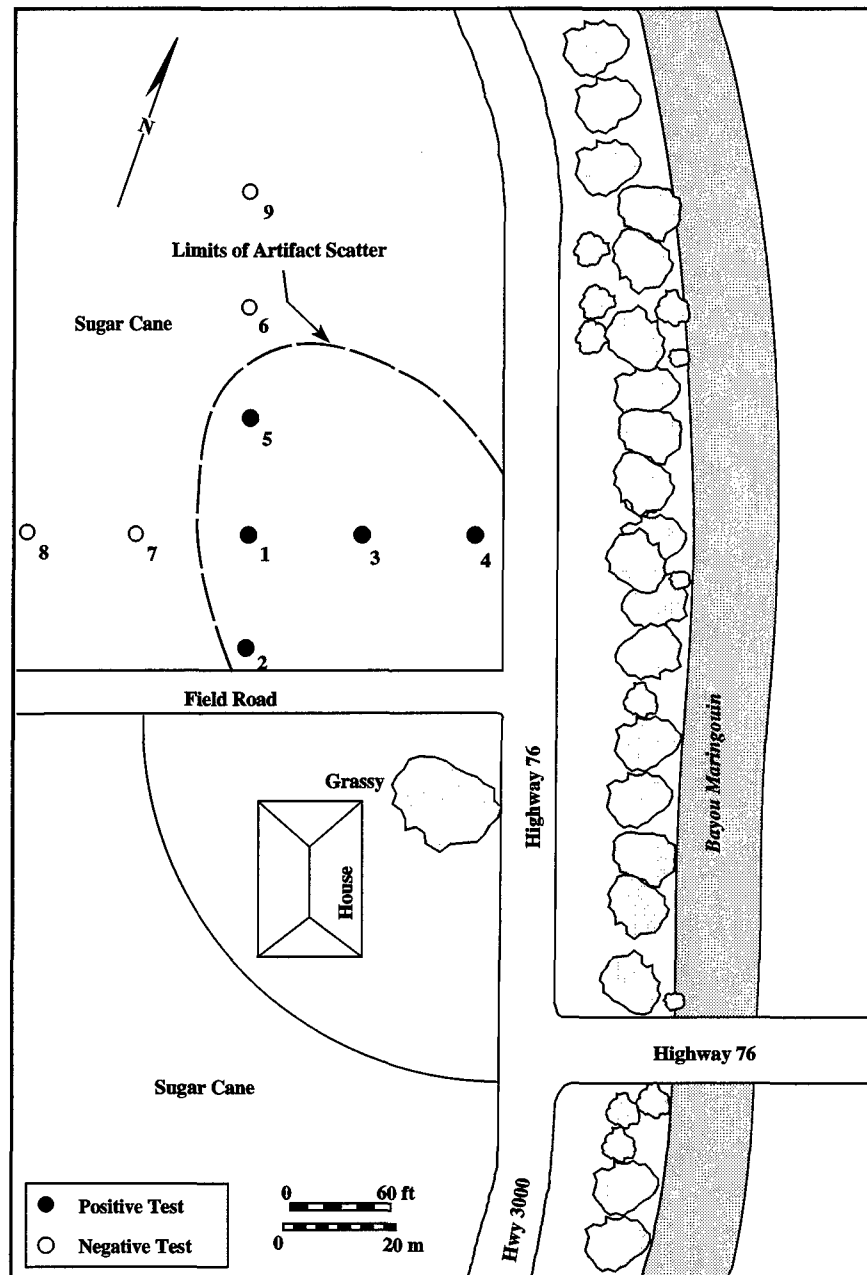


Figure 6-2. Sketch map of the Little Four site (16IV54).

result of dumping by the residents of these houses. CEI was unable to gain access to the latter property at the time of the survey.

The stratigraphy of the site is similar to that of the Little Four site. A fine, brown to dark brown (10YR4/3) clay silt plowzone (on average, 0 to 18 cm) lies over a grayish brown (10YR5/3) silty clay loam, in all of the shovel test profiles, although the

clay content of the subsoil tends to increase with distance from the bayou. Only a single shovel test produced artifacts; ST 13 yielded a single amorphous piece of rusted metal from the plowzone, which was subsequently discarded. Common whiteware, iron-stone, American majolica, and ivory-tinted whiteware, as well as machine-made and clear purple glass, give the site a date between 1870 and 1940 (Table 6-2). The fact that the houses at the site have been con-

Table 6-1. Artifacts from the Little Four Site (16IV54).

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #1	Shovel Test #2	Shovel Test #3	Shovel Test #5	TOTAL
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>						
Coarse Earthenware						
Structural Clay Tile				1		1
Semi-Refined Earthenware						
Yellowware						
Undecorated						
Undecorated	1					1
Refined Earthenware						
Whiteware						
Transfer-printed						
black	1					1
Decalcomania						
fugitive	1					1
monochrome	1					1
Stencil						
green and red	1					1
Undecorated						
undecorated	14	4	2	1		21
Unidentified Refined Earthenware						
Undecorated						
Undecorated	1					1
Stoneware						
Albany (Int.), Albany (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated		1				1
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated	2					2
Unglazed (Int.), Bristol (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated	1					1
Porcelain						
Hard Paste						
Undecorated						
undecorated	3					3
<b>GLASS</b>						
Unidentified Manufacturing technique						
brown	2					2
clear	4					4
clear blue	1					1
clear green	2					2
clear purple	2					2
clear yellow			1			1
cobalt blue	4				1	5
milk (white)	3					3
modern green					1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>56</b>

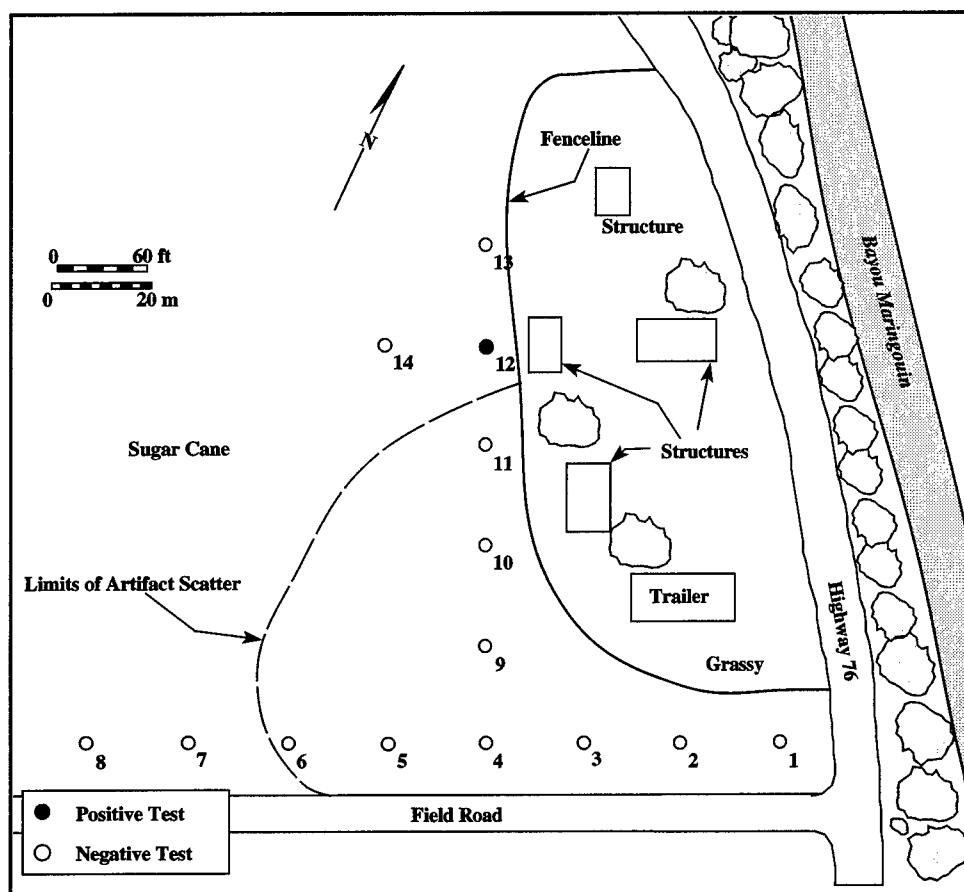


Figure 6-3. Sketch map of the Pink Trailer site (16IV55).

tinually occupied since at least 1920, and were indeed still occupied, was not reflected in the collection. (This was a pattern commonly seen throughout the survey; landowners and tenants would commonly report activity on sites as late as the 1980's and 1990's, statements often supported by recent topographic quadrangles and even standing structures. The collected assemblages, however, rarely indicated deposition of refuse after 1960. This is probably due to two major factors. The first is a certain amount of collector bias; as an example, plastic items, now among the most common materials in household refuse, were generally ignored. The second factor may be modern disposal methods, utilizing centralized landfill and garbage services. Certainly, modern residents have regular garbage pick-up every week, limiting the amount of waste discarded around the residence.)

#### **Comments and Recommendations**

The surface scatter identified as the Pink Trailer site is probably the result of dumping by the resi-

dents of the houses to the immediate north and east, and the site should probably include these structures, some of which may date to the early half of the twentieth century. A determination of research potential should await a more thorough examination of this property and its buildings.

#### **16IV56 Sunburn**

##### **Location and Description**

The Sunburn site (16IV56; Figure 6-4) is a small, moderately dense scatter of historic and prehistoric artifacts on the east side of Bayou Maringouin, about 850 m south of the junction of West Oaks Lane and Louisiana Hwy 76. Sunburn occupies Convent silt loam soils on the crest of the natural levee of Bayou Maringouin, and measures approximately 50 by 50 m.

Sunburn was delineated with shovel tests dug in two crossing transects at 20 m intervals. A typical shovel test profile consists of a dark grayish brown

**Table 6-2. Artifacts from the Pink Trailer Site (16IV55).**

	Surface Collection
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>	
Refined Earthenware	
Whiteware	
Hand-painted	
flow-blue	1
Lead Glaze	
brown	1
Decalcomania	
fugitive	2
Molded	
undecorated	1
Stencil	
green and red	1
Undecorated	
undecorated	16
Ironstone	
Molded and painted	
brown	1
Undecorated	
Undecorated	6
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware	
Undecorated	
undecorated	5
American Majolica	
Hand-painted	
pink and green	1
Stoneware	
Albany (Int.), Bristol (ext.)	
Undecorated	
undecorated	2
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)	
Undecorated	
undecorated	4
Bristol (Int.), Unid (ext.)	
Undecorated	
undecorated	1
Porcelain	
Hard Paste	
Transfer-printed (underglaze)	
blue	2
Molded	
undecorated	1
Undecorated	
undecorated	6
Semi-Porcelain	
Bath tile	
White	1
Figurine	1
Ceramic	
Button	
Porcelain	1
<b>GLASS</b>	
Machine Made	
Cup Bottom Mold	
Valve machine	
clear purple	1
Unidentified Mold Type	
Owens machine made	
clear	1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique	
clear	9
clear blue	2
clear purple	7
clear yellow	1
light blue	1
milk (white)	7
<b>FAUNA</b>	
Bone	
Vertebrate	
Non-human	
Unidentified	1
Tooth	1
<b>BRICK</b>	
handmade	
unglazed	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>86</b>

(10YR4/2) fine silty clay plowzone from 0 to 15 cm deep over a brown to dark brown (10YR4/3) silty loam that runs from 15 to 50 cm in depth. The northern and southern flanks of the site, however (Shovel Tests 1, 6 and 7), produced an intervening layer of sterile, dark gray (10YR4/1) silty clay between 15 and 30 cm below surface, probably backswamp flood deposits. Brick fragments were noted in the plowzone in STs 4, 5, 9, 10, and 11, while STs 2 and 9 each produced a piece of stoneware. No cultural stratigraphy was noted below the plowzone.

The prehistoric component at Sunburn may be placed in the Neo-Indian era, and probably sometime after the Baytown period, but this is as specific a statement as the data will allow. Seventeen Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified* sherds were recovered, as well as an incised sherd on the same ware that was not classifiable to the level of type (Table 6-3). Historic artifacts, including common whiteware, ironstone, stoneware, and clear yellow and purple glass indicate that the bulk of the occupation at the site occurred in the early half of the twentieth century.

#### *Comments and Recommendations*

Sunburn (16IV56) is a small scatter of historic and prehistoric artifacts dating to the Neo-Indian period and early twentieth century. No cultural stratigraphy was evident in shovel tests, and it is unlikely that the site holds significant potential for archaeological research.

#### *16IV57 Three O'clock*

#### *Location and Description*

Three O'clock (16IV57) is a small (60 by 40 m) scatter of brick located on the Commerce silty loam soils of the eastern natural levee of Bayou Maringouin, about 500 m south of the junction of LA Highway 76 and West Oaks Lane. Brick was the only artifact noted from the site in both shovel tests and surface collections. Site boundaries were delineated with shovel tests at 20 m intervals (Figure 6-5). Typically, shovel tests yielded a 15 cm-thick, dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) silty loam plowzone, often studded with brick fragments, over a sterile dark yellowish brown (10YR4/4) silty loam descending to the limits of excavation at 50 cm.

Several partial and whole bricks were observed from the surface, although all appeared to be of 20th

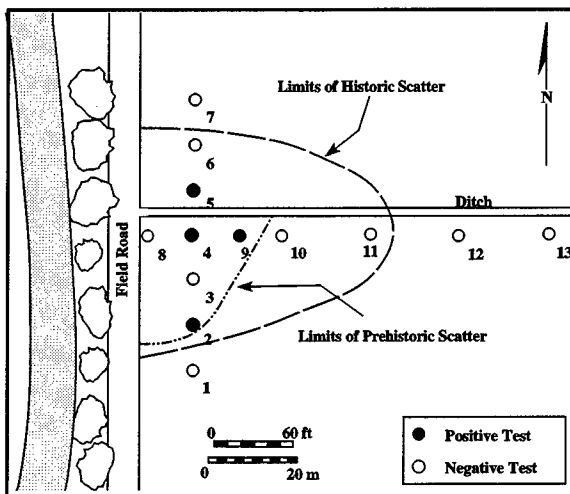


Figure 6-4. Sketch map of the Sunburn site (16IV56).

century manufacture and were unstamped. No surface collection was taken, as no artifacts beyond brick were observed. The site may have served an industrial function, as a platform or foundation for machinery, or a chimney. It is also possible that the site may have been a brick manufacturing facility, or simply a dump.

#### *Comments and Recommendations*

Three O'clock is unique in this survey, in that it appears to be a non-domestic historic occupation, representing either industrial or disposal activities. However, the site does not harbor any apparent archaeological integrity, and no further work is believed necessary.

#### *16IV58 West Oaks No. 1*

##### *Location and Description*

West Oaks No. 1 (16IV58), like the Sunburn site to the south, is a mixed historic and prehistoric scatter located on the Commerce silt loam deposits of the eastern natural levee of Bayou Maringouin. The site is located in a cultivated field about 300 m south of the West Oaks Lane bridge over Bayou Maringouin, and measures approximately 70 by 100 m, with the long axis running parallel to the bayou (Figure 6-6).

This site was delineated with a single transect of shovel tests crossed by two additional transects. These shovel tests were spaced at 10 m intervals at

the southern end of the site, due to the possibility of intact aboriginal deposits, and at 20 m intervals to the north, where only historic artifacts were noted. Shovel Test 1 produced a mottled layer of dark gray (10YR4/1) silty clay mottled with a brown to dark brown (10YR5/3) oxidized silty loam from 22 to 34 cm below surface. This zone produced charcoal and a single sherd of Coles Creek Incised, *var. Stoner*. Similar deposits were found in STs 4, 5, 6, 15, and 16, although only ST 15 produced artifacts, a single badly decayed crumb of Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*. This layer is consistent with a disturbed living surface or a zone of leaching below an old occupation layer, and suggests the possibility of intact features intrusive into the subsoil. More typical shovel tests yielded a dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) silt loam plowzone to a depth of 15 cm overlying a brown to dark brown (10YR5/3) silt loam subsoil.

The presence of Coles Creek Incised, *var. Stoner*, probably dates the prehistoric component to the late Baytown to early Coles Creek period (A.D. 600 to 800), while the presence of Baytown Plain, *var. Addis*, suggests a later, Mississippi period (A.D. 1200 to 1650) component (Table 6-4). Sixteen historic artifacts were collected from the site, including common whiteware, ironstone, stoneware, and a few sherds of glass of unidentified manufacturing technique. These items were diagnostic only to the latter half of the nineteenth century and the first half of the twentieth century.

#### *Comments and Recommendations*

The presence of deposits below the plowzone at West Oaks No. 1 suggests that intact features may remain here. Possessing a small nonmound late Baytown (A.D. 600 - 700) or early Coles Creek (A.D. 700 - 800) occupation in addition to a Mississippi period (A.D. 1200 - 1650) component, the site is a potentially significant one, and is recommended for further testing to assess National Register eligibility.

#### *16IV59 West Oaks No. 2*

##### *Location and Description*

Like the first West Oaks site, 16IV59 lies on the Commerce silt loams of the eastern natural levee of Bayou Maringouin. Located immediately south of the West Oaks Lane bridge in a sugarcane field, this prehistoric and historic scatter measures roughly 120 by 50 m, oriented north to south (Figure 6-7).

Table 6-3. Artifacts from the Sunburn Site (16IV56).

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #2	Shovel Test #4	Shovel Test #5	Shovel Test #9	TOTAL
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>						
Baytown Plain						
<i>var. unspecified</i>	17					17
Unidentified Incised on Baytown Plai						
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1					1
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>						
Refined Earthenware						
Whiteware						
Transfer-printed						
black	1					1
Undecorated						
undecorated	8					8
Ironstone						
Undecorated						
Undecorated	12					12
Stoneware						
Albany (Int.), Salt (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated	2	1			1	4
Salt (Int.), Salt (ext.)						
Undecorated						
Undecorated						
tobacco pipe	1					1
<b>GLASS</b>						
Unidentified Manufacturing technique						
clear	3		1			4
clear blue	6					6
clear purple	4					4
clear yellow	1					1
milk (white)						
modern green	1					1
olive	1					1
<b>METAL</b>						
Iron						
nail						
unidentified	1					1
unidentified				2		2
unidentified	1					1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>65</b>

The small aboriginal component here may be associated with the larger Skeeter Bayou site (16IV70) that occupies the field just north of West Oaks Lane.

The West Oaks No. 2 site was tested with two crossing transects of shovel tests spaced at 20 m intervals. Shovel Test 2, dug into a heavy brick concentration, yielded a black (10YR2/1) layer of silty

loam, rich in carbon, from 17 to 31 cm below surface. No artifacts were noted from this level, but given the dense brick and charcoal deposits noted in the plowzone (0 to 16 cm below surface), it is likely that this layer was connected with the historic occupation of the site, and may be a result of the destruction of the house. Stratigraphy elsewhere on the site included a brown (10YR4/3) sterile silty loam

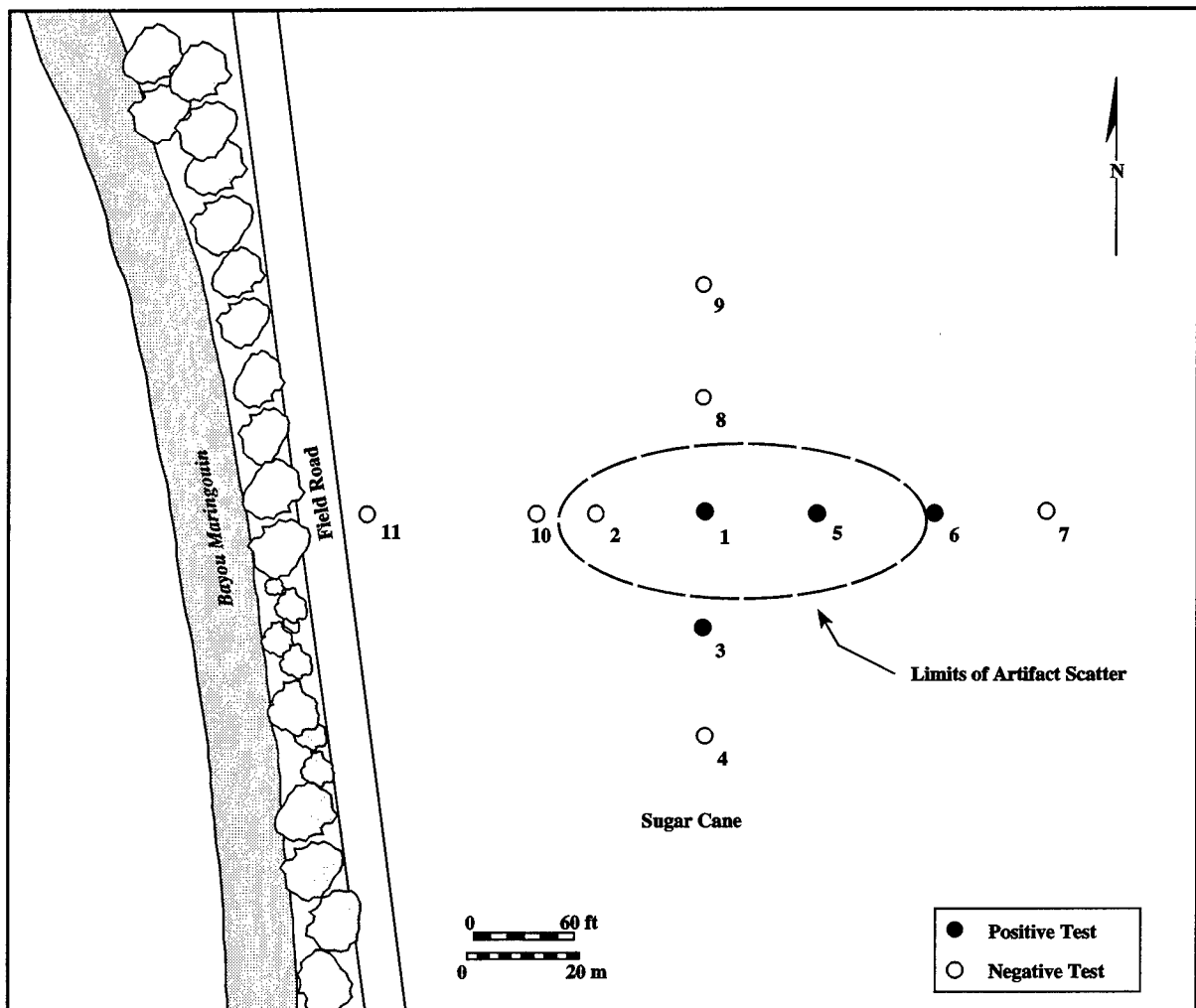


Figure 6-5. Sketch map of the Three O'clock site (16IV57).

subsoil from 15 to 50 cm overlain by a dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) silty loam plowzone, which often contained brick fragments and historic material. No aboriginal material was noted from subsurface tests.

Prehistoric materials can be dated to the terminal end of the Coles Creek period (A.D. 1000 - 1200) and the beginning of the Mississippi period (A.D. 1200 - 1350) on the basis of sherds of *Plaquemine Brushed*, *vars. Blackwater* and *Plaquemine* (Table 6-5). The majority of prehistoric artifacts, however, are rather undiagnostic examples of Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*. Historic artifacts include sherds of common whiteware, ironstone, ivory-tinted whiteware, porcelain, stoneware, yellowware, and machine-made glass. Transfer-print and repoussé decoration indicate late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century occupations, respectively. A piece of

early vessel glass was noted, but a large portion of the ceramics at the site are ivory tinted whitewares suggesting a later occupation. Overall, the site appears to have been used between 1870 and 1960, but most intensively in the early decades of the twentieth century.

#### Comments and Recommendations

The West Oaks No. 2 site is a scatter of late-nineteenth to early-twentieth century material probably representing a domestic occupation. A minor late Coles Creek (A.D. 1000 to 1200) or early Mississippi period (A.D. 1200 to 1350) occupation was also noted here, possibly associated with the Skeeter Bayou site to the north of West Oaks Lane. Although subsurface deposits were not widespread at the site, further testing is recommended to clarify the nature of the charcoal deposit noted in ST 2.



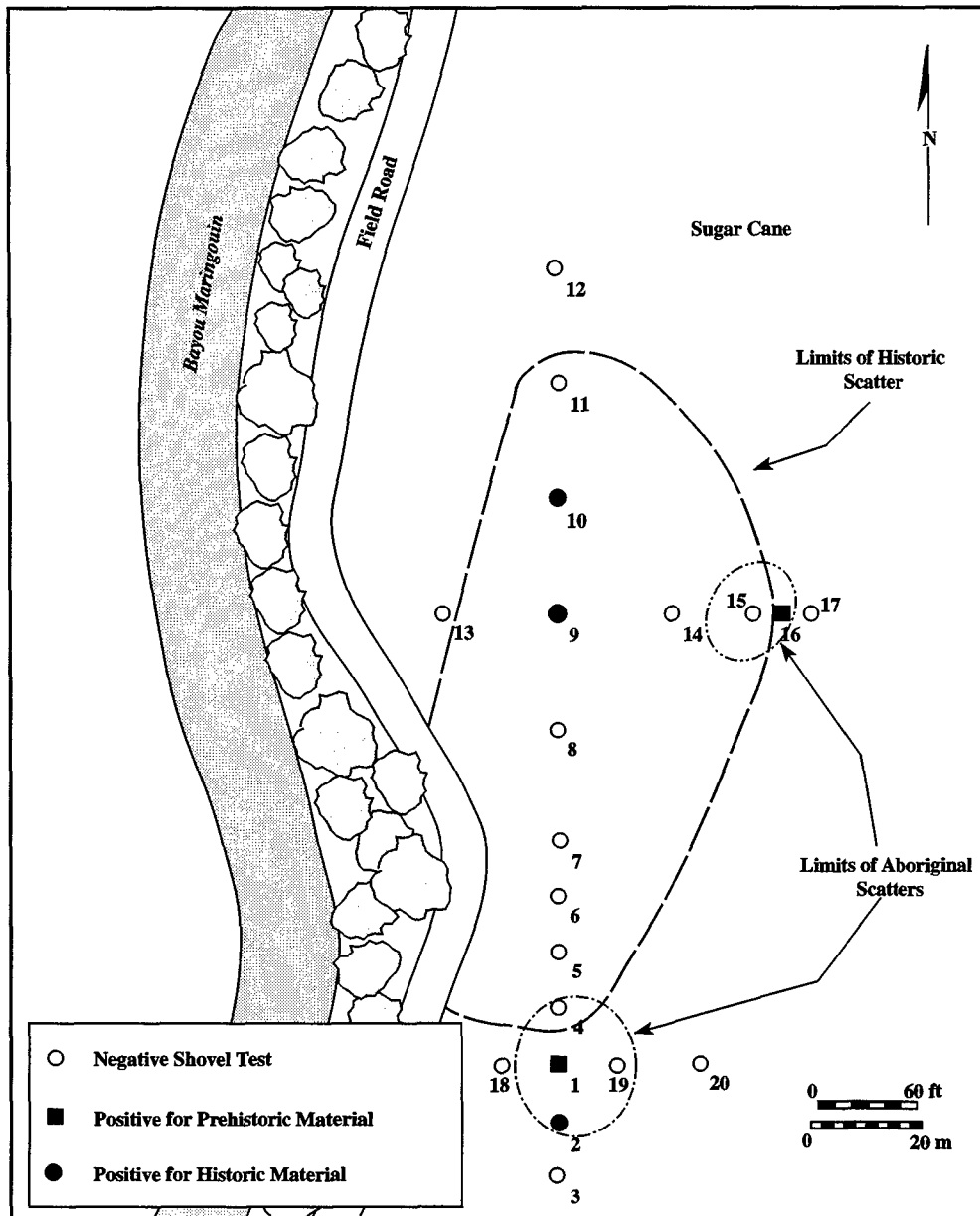


Figure 6-6. Sketch map of the West Oaks No. 1 site (16IV58).

### 16IV60 Center Plantation No. 1

#### Location and Description

The first of the Center Plantation sites is located about 300 m south of the southern terminus of Bayou Road, on the eastern natural levee crest of Bayou Maringouin. This small (50 by 60 m) historic scatter is in the northwest corner of Center Plantation, south of the junction of Bayou Maringouin and a large drainage canal which marks the north edge of

the property (Figure 6-8). As with almost all sites in this project, the scatter is found in cultivated fields on Commerce silt loams.

Center Plantation No. 1 was delineated with two crossing transects of shovel tests, spaced at 20 m intervals. A single test (ST 6) produced brick from the plowzone, but otherwise stratigraphy was limited to a 16 cm-thick brown (10YR4/3) silt loam plowzone over a sterile oxidized yellowish brown (10YR5/4) silt loam subsoil.

Table 6-4. Artifacts from the West Oaks No. 1 Site (16IV58).

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #1	Shovel Test #2	TOTAL
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>				
Baytown Plain				
<i>var. Addis</i>	2			2
<i>var. unspecified</i>	6			6
Coles Creek Incised				
<i>var. Stoner, Mangham rim mode</i>		1		1
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>				
Refined Earthenware				
Whiteware				
Undecorated				
undecorated	4			4
Ironstone				
Undecorated				
Undecorated	3			3
Unidentified Refined Earthenware				
Undecorated				
Undecorated	1			1
Stoneware				
Albany (Int.), Salt and Unglazed (ext.)				
Undecorated				
undecorated	1			1
<b>GLASS</b>				
Unidentified Manufacturing technique				
brown	2			2
milk (blue)	1			1
olive	1			1
<b>METAL</b>				
Iron				
unidentified				
unidentified			3	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>25</b>

The site produced an assemblage dating between 1880 and 1940. Included were examples of common whiteware, ivory-tinted whiteware, ironstone, and redware (Table 6-6). Repoussé decoration on sherds of common whiteware indicate a date between 1900 and 1930. Molded glass, and olive amber and clear purple glass of unidentified manufacture were collected as well. One container bore a manufacturer's mark for the Owens Illinois Glass Co. dating to 1934 (Toulouse 1972:403).

#### *Comments and Recommendations*

The Center Plantation No. 1 site is a late-nineteenth to early-twentieth century domestic occupa-

tion, with no apparent subsurface integrity. No further testing is recommended here, and it is not believed to be an historically or archaeologically significant site.

#### *16IV61 Center Plantation No. 2*

##### *Location and Description*

The second Center Plantation site is located approximately 220 m south of Center Plantation No. 1, in the opposite (southwest) corner of the same cultivated field on the east side of Bayou Maringouin (Figure 6-9). The site measures 50 by 70 meters as exposed, and the soils are classified as Commerce

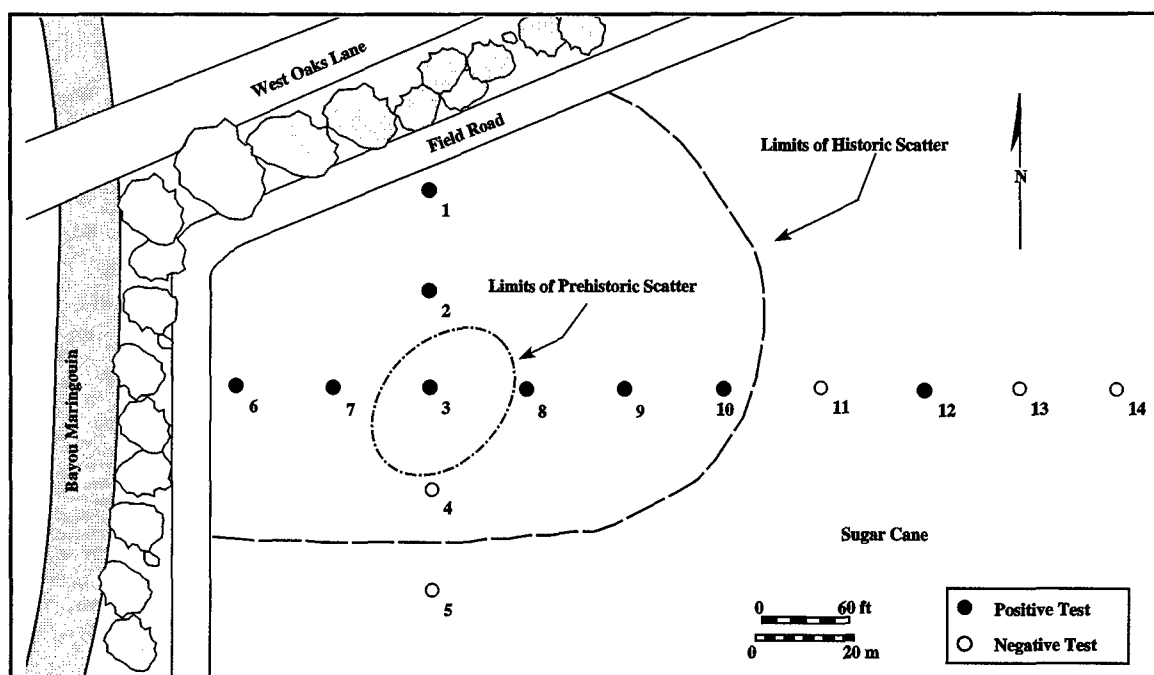


Figure 6-7. Sketch map of the West Oaks No. 2 site (16IV59).

silt loams. This historic scatter was tested with two crossing transects of shovel tests spaced at 20 m intervals. Brick fragments were found in plowzone contexts in STs 2, 4, 6, 7 and 8. Only ST 6, however, produced artifacts below the plowzone. Six pieces of a teacup, a sherd of container glass, an iron fragment, and several pieces of brick were found beneath the plowzone (between 10 and 30 cm below surface) in this test, in a dark gray (10YR4/1) silty clay layer that may represent material redeposited by spoil from the nearby ditch. Otherwise, stratigraphy at 16IV61 consisted of a simple brown (10YR5/3) silt loam plowzone from 0 to 14 cm below surface, often containing historic artifacts, overlying an oxidized brown to dark brown (10YR4/3) silt loam subsoil.

Center Plantation No. 2 produced historic ceramics dating to the turn-of-the-twentieth-century, and was probably occupied into the middle decades of the 1900's (Table 6-7). Clear purple and yellow glass, common whiteware, ironstone, and ivory tinted whiteware dominate the collections. A 1942 Wheat penny was also found here, further bolstering the artifact chronology.

#### Comments and Recommendations

Despite the presence of an apparent cultural deposit in the subsoil at ST 6, it is unlikely that Center Plantation

No. 2 is worth the effort of further research. It is probable that the deposits noted in this are the result of ditch excavation and maintenance. However, a full determination of site significance should await further investigation of this deposit.

#### 16IV62 Clay Marble

##### Location and Description

Clay Marble (16IV62) is a small (30 by 60 m) historic scatter on the eastern natural levee of Bayou Maringouin, approximately 1250 m north of the West Oaks Lane bridge (Figure 6-10). This site was delineated with crossing transects of shovel tests spaced at 20 m intervals, but only two shovel tests (ST 1 and 2) proved positive, yielding a few pieces of brick and a piece of common whiteware from the plowzone, respectively. Shovel test profiles were otherwise typical for the Commerce silt loam levee deposits of the area, consisting of a 15 cm-deep brown to dark brown (10YR4/3) silt loam plowzone over a yellowish brown (10YR5/4) silt loam subsoil.

The historic artifacts from the Clay Marble site include sherds of common whiteware, ivory-tinted whiteware, ironstone, and shards of clear purple glass and glass of unidentified manufacturing technique (Table 6-8). On the whole, this suggests a turn-of-the-twentieth century date.

Table 6-5. Artifacts from the West Oaks No. 2 Site (16IV59).

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #3	Shovel Test #6	Shovel Test #8	Shovel Test #9	TOTAL
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>						
Baytown Plain						
<i>var. unspecified</i>	12					12
Plaquemine Brushed						
<i>var. Plaquemine</i>	1					1
<i>var. Blackwater</i>	1					1
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>						
Semi-Refined Earthenware						
Yellowware						
Annular (banded)						
white	1					1
Undecorated						
Undecorated	2					2
Refined Earthenware						
Whiteware						
Transfer-printed, Painted and Clobbered						
brown, poly, green	1					1
Hand-painted						
monochrome	1					1
polychrome						
figurine	1					1
Annular (banded)						
monochrome	1					1
Repousse						
Undecorated	1					1
Undecorated						
undecorated	10					10
Ironstone						
Hand-painted						
polychrome (sprig)	1					1
Molded						
undecorated					1	1
Undecorated						
Undecorated	6					6
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware						
Transfer-printed and clobbered						
brown and green	1					1
Decalcomania						
fugitive	1					1
polychrome	2					2
Repousse						
undecorated	2					2
Gilt						
undecorated	3					3
Molded						
undecorated	2					2
Undecorated						
undecorated	18			1		19
Dark Ivory-Tinted Whiteware						
Undecorated						
undecorated	2					2
Ball Clay						
Tobacco pipe						
molded	1					1
Stoneware						
Albany (Int.), Bristol (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated	2					2
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)						
Blue on white						
undecorated	3					3
Undecorated						
undecorated	1					1
Slip (Int.), salt (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated	2					2
Unglazed (int.), Slip (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated	2					2
Unglazed (Int.), Unglazed (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated	1					1
Glazed (Int.), Glazed (ext.)						
Undecorated						
clear brown	1					1

(continued)

Table 6-5. Concluded.

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #3	Shovel Test #6	Shovel Test #8	Shovel Test #9	TOTAL
Porcelain						
Hard Paste						
Decalcomania						
polychrome	1					1
Repoussé						
undecorated	1					1
Undecorated						
undecorated	3					3
Button						
Undecorated	1					1
Semi-Porcelain						
Bath tile						
Glazed						
Gray	1					1
Pink	1					1
Unglazed						
Blue	1					1
Avocado	2					2
White	1					1
Peach	1					1
White, Black spots	1					1
Doll	1					1
Undecorate						
undecorated	2					2
GLASS						
Machine Made						
Cup Bottom Mold						
Owens machine made						
clear	1					1
Unidentified Mold Type						
Owens machine made						
clear green	1					1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique						
brown	1					1
clear	4			6		10
clear blue	2		1			3
clear green	4					4
clear pink	1					1
clear purple	4					4
cobalt blue	2					2
light blue	2					2
milk (green)	2					2
milk (white)	10	1				11
olive	1					1
Window Glass						
clear green	1					1
Glass						
marble						
milk, blue	1					1
bead						
ruby	1					1
red	1					1
METAL						
Brass						
rivet?	1					1
Unidentified	1					1
Silver						
jewelry	1					1
Unidentified						
pendant	1					1
BRICK						
fire						
glazed	1			1		2
STONE						
Minera						
Slate	1					1
Coal						
Burned						
Clinker		1				1
SYNTHETIC PRODUCT						
Synthetic						
Plastic	5					5
TOTAL	150	2	1	8	1	162

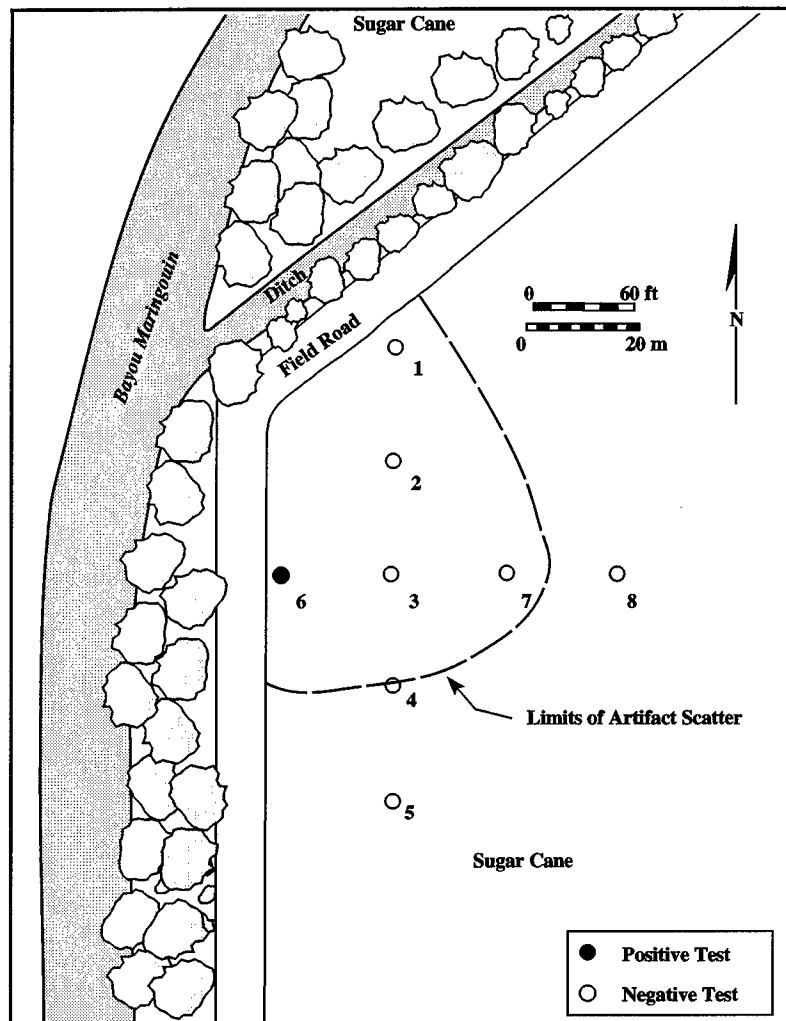


Figure 6-8. Sketch map of the Center Plantation No. 1 site (16IV60).

#### *Comments and Recommendations*

Clay marble is a small late-nineteenth to early-twentieth century scatter of artifacts. No apparent cultural stratigraphy appears to exist below the plowzone, and no intact deposits are in evidence. This site is not believed to have historical or archaeological significance, and no further work is recommended here.

#### *16IV63 Persimmon Plantation No. 1*

##### *Location and Description*

Persimmon Plantation No. 1 is a small (50 by 60 m), sparse scatter of historic artifacts corresponding to the location of three structures marked on the Grosse

Tete, LA 1935 15' topographic quadrangle. One of these structures is still marked on the Grosse Tete 1954 7.5' quadrangle (photorevised 1980). The site is 1300 m north of the junction of Highways 76 and 411, on Commerce silt loams that make up the eastern natural levee of Bayou Grosse Tete (Figure 6-11). An equipment parking area with a large oak occupies the site now, as the last structure was torn down within the last two decades or so; in fact, a pile of structural debris has been pushed off into the ditch to the south of the site and is still visible here.

Site boundaries were tested with two crossing transects of shovel tests spaced at 20 m intervals. Most shovel tests produced brick within the upper 10 to 15 cm. However, STs 2 and 3 yielded a brick "floor" which may correspond to a walkway or pa-

**Table 6-6. Artifacts from the Center Plantation No. 1 Site (16IV60).**

	Surface Collection
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>	
Semi-Refined Earthenware	
Semi-Refined Redware	
White Slipped (int.), lead (ext.)	1
Refined Earthenware	
Whiteware	
Edged (painted and unscaloped)	
blue	1
Molded	
undecorated	1
Undecorated	
undecorated	26
Ironstone	
Undecorated	
Undecorated	1
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware	
Decalcomania	
monochrome and fugitive	1
Undecorated	
undecorated	8
Porcelain	
Hard Paste	
Undecorated	
undecorated	2
Semi-Porcelain	
Undecorated	
undecorated	2
<b>GLASS</b>	
Molded	
Unidentified Mold Type	
Lipping-Tool Finished	
clear blue	1
clear purple	1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique	
brown	1
clear	15
clear blue	4
clear green	4
clear purple	7
cobalt blue	5
milk (pink)	2
milk (white)	4
olive amber	1
<b>METAL</b>	
Iron	
unidentified	1
<b>SYNTHETIC PRODUCT</b>	
Synthetic	
Rubber	
shoe part	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>90</b>

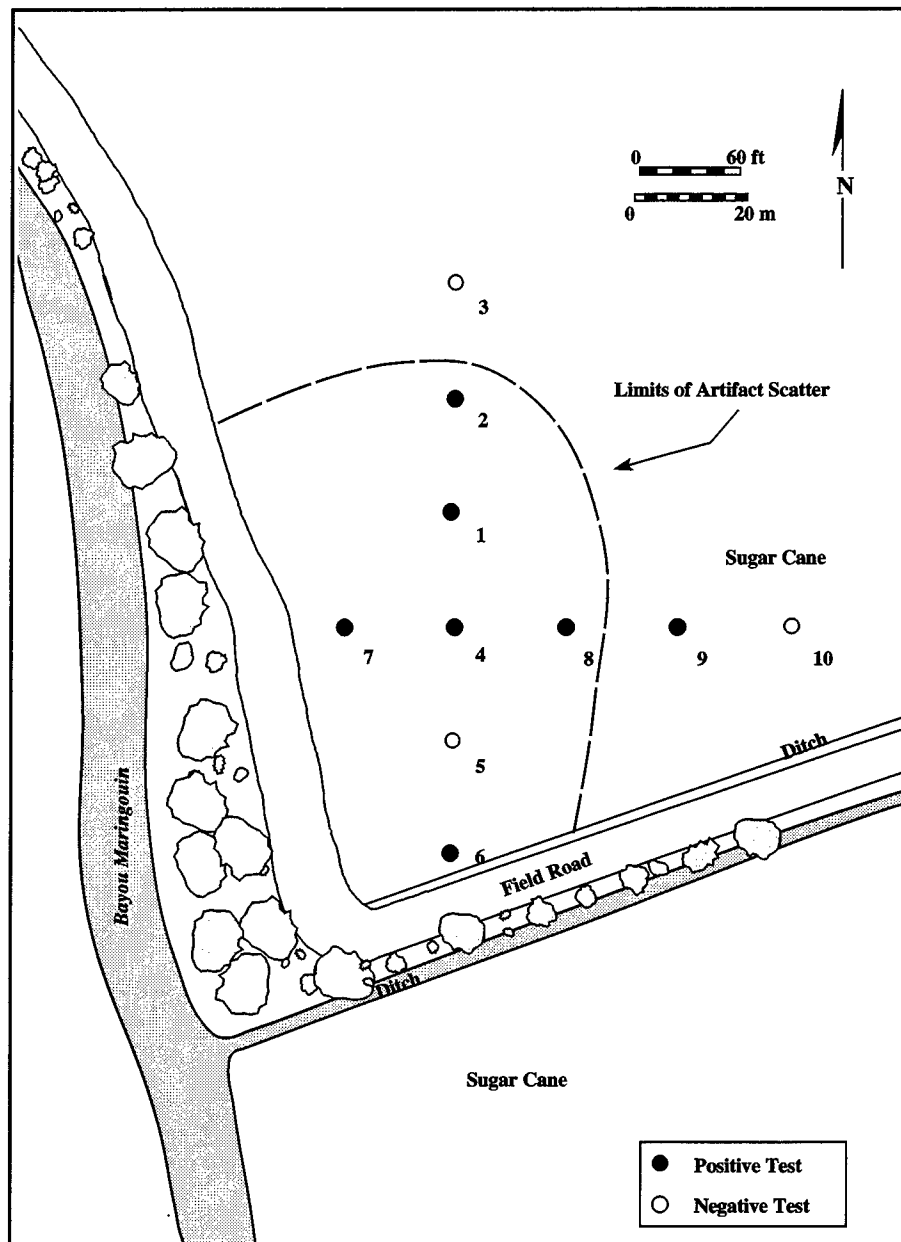


Figure 6-9. Sketch map of the Center Plantation No. 2 site (16IV61).

tio at 5 cm below surface; alternatively, the tests may have simply happened onto the tops of two foundation pilings. In general, however, most shovel tests revealed an upper layer of what is probably plowzone [a brown (10YR4/3) silty clay] to a depth of 12 to 15 cm below surface, underlain by a sterile yellowish brown (10YR5/4) silty clay subsoil.

Few artifacts were collected from the Persimmon Plantation No. 1 site (Table 6-9). The assemblage, however, is fairly typical of most of the sites found in this survey, probably dating to the turn-of-

the-twentieth-century. Common and ivory-tinted whitewares were noted, as were sherds of ironstone and clear purple glass. A single sherd of green transfer-printed whiteware was manufactured between 1875 and 1925, but the clear purple glass suggests a date from the middle of this sequence.

#### *Comments and Recommendations*

Persimmon Plantation No. 1 is a small, sparse scatter of historic artifacts corresponding to the location of a cluster of structures that stood here for a



**Table 6-7. Artifacts from the Center Plantation No. 2 Site (16IV61).**

	Surface	Shovel Test #1	Shovel Test #6	TOTAL
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>				
Refined Earthenware				
Early Whiteware				
Transfer-printed blue	1			1
Whiteware				
Undecorated undecorated	5			5
Ironstone				
Undecorated				
Undecorated	2			2
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware				
Decalcomania polychrome			7	7
Molded				
undecorated	3			3
Undecorated				
undecorated	4			4
Stoneware				
Albany (Int.), Unglazed (ext.)				
Undecorated				
undecorated	1			1
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)				
Blue on white				
undecorated	1			1
Porcelain				
Hard Paste				
Molded				
undecorated	1			1
Undecorated				
undecorated	2			2
Button				
Undecorated	1			1
Figurine				
Undecorated	1			1
<b>GLASS</b>				
Molded				
Unidentified Mold Type				
Lipping Tooled				
clear blue	1			1
Machine Made				
Unidentified Mold Type				
Unidentified machine type				
clear green	1			1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique				
clear	3	1	2	6
clear blue	1			1
clear green	2			2
clear purple	4			4
clear yellow	2			2
clear vaseline	2			2
cobalt blue	2			2
milk (white)	7			7
orange	1			1
<b>METAL</b>				
Iron				
unidentified				
unidentified			1	1
Copper				
Coin				
Penny	1			1
Cuprous				
Snap	1			1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>61</b>

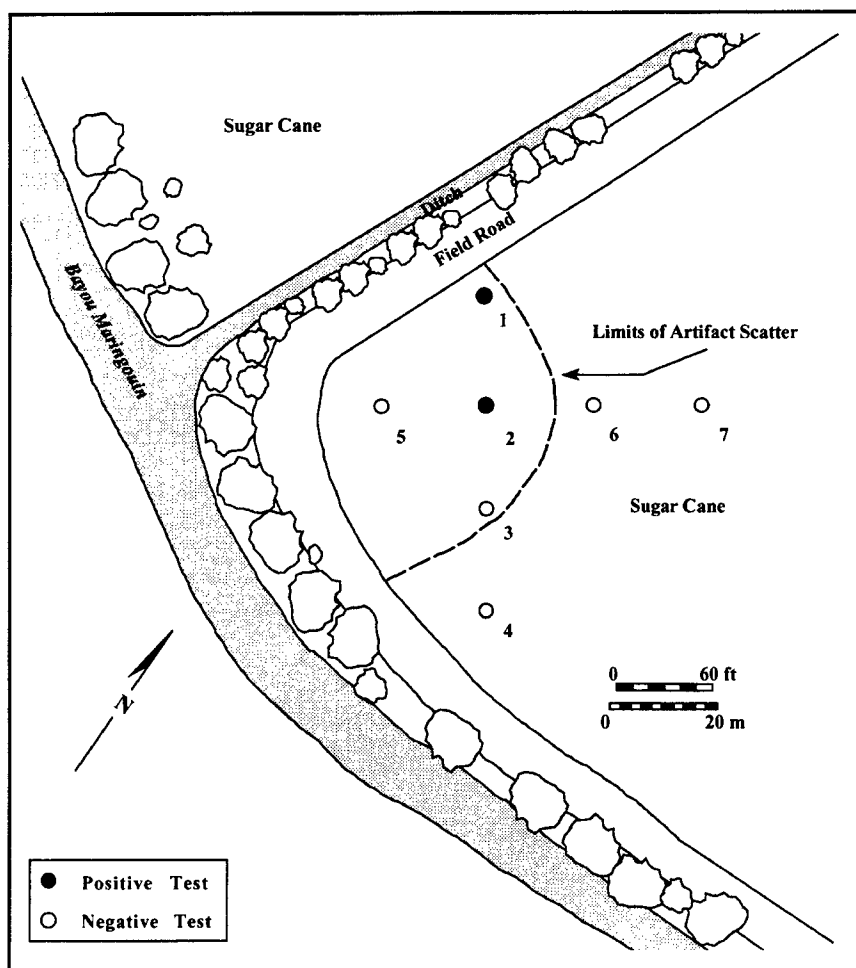


Figure 6-10. Sketch map of the Clay Marble site (16IV62).

large part of the twentieth century. The presence of what appears to be intact structural features suggests that research may be fruitful here, and further testing is recommended to assess National Register eligibility.

#### 16IV64 Venus de Grosse Tete

##### *Location and Description*

Venus de Grosse Tete is a small (50 by 40 m) scatter of prehistoric and historic materials in a cultivated field on the north (left descending) bank of Bayou Grosse Tete, north of LA Highway 411 (Figure 6-12). The site lies just west of the Slacks site (16IV18) on the Commerce soils that make up the natural levee crest on this side, about 520 m east/southeast of the bridge over Bayou Grosse Tete at the town of Slacks. A structure was recorded here

in 1935 on the Grosse Tete, LA 15' quadrangle, and in fact this structure was still present when the Grosse Tete 1954 7.5' quadrangle was photorevised in 1980.

The site was delineated with the standard crossing transects of shovel tests dug at 20 m intervals. Four shovel tests (STs 1, 2, 5 and 6) produced historic material, including brick, whiteware, glass and metal fragments, all from plowzone contexts. Shovel test profiles revealed a brown to dark brown (10YR4/3) silt loam plowzone from 0 to 16 cm below surface over a sterile yellowish brown (10YR5/4) silt loam subsoil. No cultural deposits were encountered below the plowzone.

Surface collections from the Venus de Grosse Tete site produced two sherds of Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*, and a single flake of tan cobble chert (Table 6-10). The sherds may postdate the Baytown

**Table 6-8. Artifacts from the Clay Marble Site (16IV62).**

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #1	TOTAL
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>			
Refined Earthenware			
Whiteware			
Undecorated			
undecorated	8	1	9
Ironstone			
Undecorated			
Undecorated	2		2
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware			
Undecorated			
undecorated	6		6
Ball			
Marble			
Undecorated	1		1
<b>GLASS</b>			
Unidentified Manufacturing techniq			
clear	6		6
clear blue	1		1
clear purple	2		2
milk (blue)	1		1
milk (white)	2		2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>30</b>

period, but more specific statements are not forthcoming from the data at hand. Historic ceramics, on the other hand, are a bit more diagnostic. Common whiteware, ivory-tinted whiteware, ironstone, and stoneware indicate an occupation between 1870 and 1930. Identifiable container glass is machine-made, and includes shards of clear purple and clear yellow glass. These date between 1880 and 1935, complimenting the dates from the ceramics.

#### ***Comments and Recommendations***

Venus de Grosse Tete is a small prehistoric and late-nineteenth to early-twentieth century scatter which, like most of the sites from this survey, probably represents an historic tenant house. No intact features were noted, and the low density of artifacts does not suggest the presence of features. No further work is recommended on this site.

#### ***16IV65 Hot Sauce***

##### ***Location and Description***

Just to the west-northwest of 16IV64 lies Hot Sauce (16IV65), sharing the same natural levee for-

mation as Slacks and Venus de Grosse Tete (Figure 6-13). This small scatter of historic and prehistoric artifacts was tested with two crossing transects of shovel tests spaced at 20 m intervals. All shovel tests were sterile but one, producing a 15 cm-thick brown to dark brown (10YR4/3) silt loam plowzone over an oxidized yellowish brown (10YR5/4) silt loam subsoil. Only ST 7 produced brick fragments from the plowzone.

Like the Venus de Grosse Tete site, the prehistoric collection from Hot Sauce is largely undiagnostic (Table 6-11). Sherds of Baytown Plain and Unidentified Incised on Baytown Plain were probably manufactured after the Baytown period. Historic materials include a fairly typical assemblage for the area, including common whiteware, ivory-tinted whiteware, ironstone and stoneware sherds. Coupled with clear purple glass, the artifacts suggest an occupation in the later decades of the nineteenth century and the early decades of the twentieth century.

##### ***Comments and Recommendations***

Hot Sauce is a turn-of-the-twentieth-century occupation with a small prehistoric (Neo-Indian)

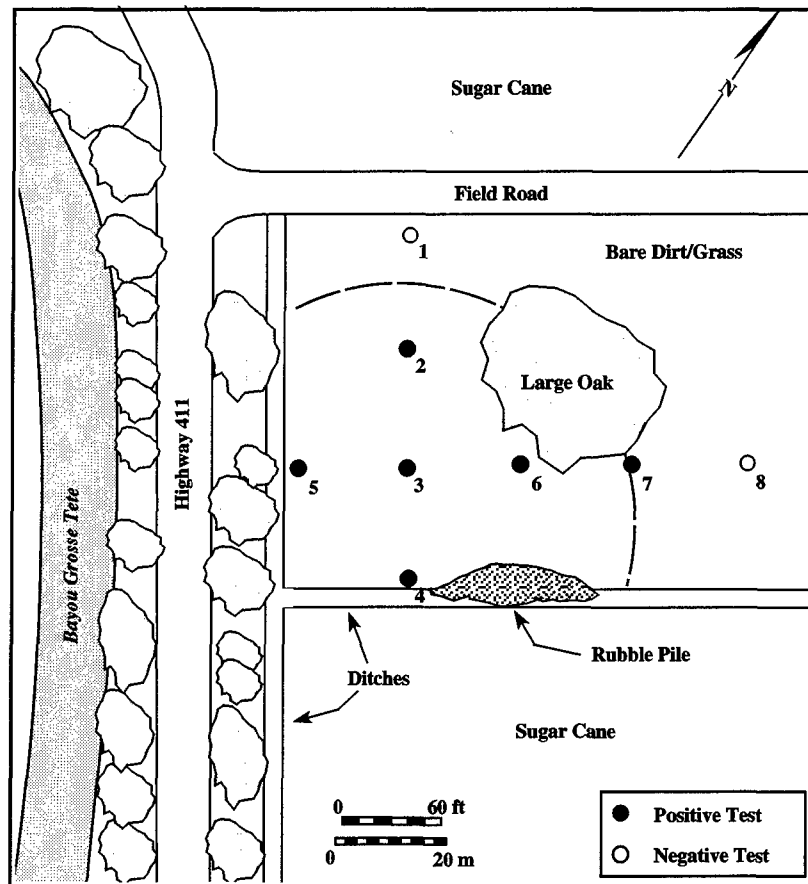


Figure 6-11. Sketch map of the Persimmon Plantation No. 1 site (16IV63).

component. No intact deposits were noted, and the scatter is very sparse on the ground. This site is probably not significant from an archaeological or historical standpoint, and no further testing is recommended.

#### **16IV66 Gay Place No. 1**

##### **Location and Description**

Gay Place No. 1 (16IV66) is a small (60 by 60 m) scatter of historic artifacts on the eastern natural levee of Bayou Grosse Tete (Figure 6-14), east of LA Highway 411, 1100 m due east of the Peter Hill site (16IV2). The site, which takes its name from the local appellation for the property, lies on Commerce soils, and corresponds to a structure marked on the 1935 Grosse Tete, LA 15' quadrangle.

Two crossing transects of shovel tests spaced at 20 m intervals were used to delineate site bound-

aries. Four of these tests (STs 1, 2, 6, and 7) yielded brick fragments, container glass, and/or metal. Shovel tests profiles revealed a brown (10YR5/3) silty clay subsoil from 15 to 50 cm in depth (the limits of excavation) overlain by a dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) to brown/dark brown (10YR4/3) silty clay plowzone. No deposits were noted below plowzone.

Surface collections at the Gay Place No. 1 site were comprised solely of historic artifacts, specifically common whiteware, ivory-tinted whiteware, and dark ivory-tinted whiteware (Table 6-12). While some of the whiteware could date earlier in the nineteenth century, the ivory-tinted whiteware dates between 1900 and 1930, and the dark ivory-tinted sherds postdate 1930. No manganese-tinted (clear purple) glass was recovered. A screen-painted label on a single piece of clear brown glass probably dates to the 1930's. The overall collection at the site dates between 1870 and 1960, but the majority of diagnostics, along with the lack of clear purple glass,

**Table 6-9. Artifacts from the Persimmon Plantation No. 1 Site (16IV63).**

	Surface Collection
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>	
Refined Earthenware	
Whiteware	
Transfer-printed green	1
Undecorated undecorated	1
Ironstone	
Undecorated	1
Undecorated	
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware	
Undecorated undecorated	3
Stoneware	
Salt (Int.), Salt (ext.)	
Undecorated undecorated	1
Porcelain	
Hard Paste	
Undecorated undecorated	1
<b>GLASS</b>	
Unidentified Manufacturing technique	
clear	4
clear blue	2
clear purple	1
<b>SYNTHETIC PRODUCTS</b>	
Synthetic	
Plastic	
Unidentified	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16</b>

suggests an occupation from the latter half of this sequence.

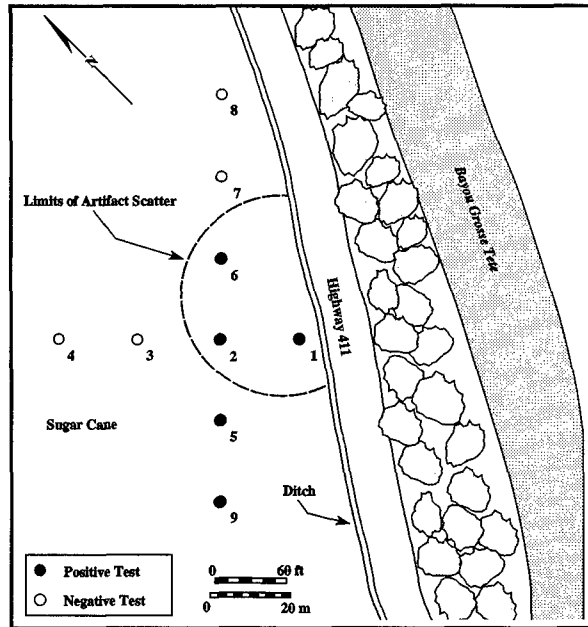
#### **Comments and Recommendations**

Gay Place No. 1 shows no evidence for intact deposits, and is an unlikely candidate for further research. No further work is recommended here.

#### **16IV67 Gay Place No. 2**

##### **Location and Description**

Gay Place No. 2 is one of the largest (150 by 60 meters, oriented southwest to northeast), and probably most significant occupations recorded by this survey. The site lies just south and east of Gay Place No. 1, on the Convent silt loams that comprise this

**Figure 6-12. Sketch map of the Venus de Grosse Tete site (16IV64).**

segment of the eastern levee of Bayou Grosse Tete. Gay Place No. 2 was the scene of a relatively sizable prehistoric occupation (measuring 30 by 90 m), as well as a large historic component (Figure 6-15). The 1935 Grosse Tete, LA 15' quadrangle shows two structures here, and significant earlier historic components were present here before this time as well.

Two crossing transects of shovel tests at 20 m intervals were used to delineate site boundaries at 16IV67. Shovel Tests 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, and 12 yielded historic artifacts, largely brick fragments from the plowzone, with occasional historic ceramic and glass sherds. A typical shovel test revealed a 15 cm-thick dark gray (10YR4/1) silt loam plowzone overlying a yellowish brown (10YR5/4) silt loam subsoil. No cultural stratigraphy was noted below plowzone.

Prehistoric ceramics from Gay Place No. 2 include sherds of Baytown Plain, *var. Addis*, and Plaquemine Brushed, *var. Plaquemine*, giving the site a Mississippi period (A.D. 100 to 1650) date (Figures 6-16 and 6-17 and Table 6-13). A tentatively identified sherd of Baytown Plain, *var. Vicksburg*, may date to the middle and late Coles Creek phases (A.D. 900 - 1200). However, the utility of importing the *Vicksburg* variety (and its cultural and chronological implications) into this region is probably low,

Table 6-10. Artifacts from the Venus de Grosse Tete Site (16IV64).

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #1	Shovel Test #2	Shovel Test#5	Shovel Test #6	TOTAL
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>						
Baytown Plain						
var. unspecified	2					2
<b>PREHISTORIC LITHICS</b>						
Chipped Stone						
Chert						
Flake	1					1
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>						
Refined Earthenware						
Whiteware						
Transfer-printed						
flow blue (revival)	1					1
blue	1					1
Decalcomania						
fugitive	1					1
Molded						
undecorated	2					2
Repousse						
Undecorated	4					4
Undecorated						
undecorated	15		1			16
Ironstone						
Stencil						
green						
blue	3					3
Molded						
undecorated	1					1
Undecorated						
Undecorated	3					3
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware						
Transfer-printed						
blue	1					1
Decalcomania						
monochrome	1					1
Undecorated						
undecorated	6				1	7
Dark Ivory-Tinted Whiteware						
Repoussé						
undecorated	1					1
Stoneware						
Albany (Int.), Unglazed (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated	1					1
Albany (Int.), Albany (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated	1					1
Albany (Int.), Bristol (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated	2					2
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)						
Blue on white						
undecorated	2					2
Molded						
undecorated	3					3
Undecorated						
undecorated	3					3
Glazed (Int.), Glazed (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated	3					3

(continued)

Table 6-10. Concluded.

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #1	Shovel Test #2	Shovel Test#5	Shovel Test #6	TOTAL
<b>Porcelain</b>						
Bisque						
Figurine	1					1
Hard Paste						
Hand-painted						
polychrome	1					1
Undecorated						
undecorated	13					13
Button						
Undecorated	1					1
Parian						
Undecorated	1					1
Semi-Porcelain						
Unidentified						
unidentified	1					1
glazed						
green	1					1
<b>GLASS</b>						
Molded						
Unidentified Mold Type						
Lipping Tooled						
clear purple	1					1
Machine Made						
Unidentified Mold Type						
Owens machine made						
clear	2					2
Unidentified machine type						
clear	1					1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique						
clear	4	1	1			6
clear blue	3					3
clear green	2					2
clear purple	13					13
clear yellow	2					2
cobalt blue	5					5
light blue	4					4
milk (blue)	2					2
milk (white)	12			1		13
yellow	1					1
Glass						
marble						
clear blue, milk (white), milk (blue)	1					1
clear blue, milk (white), orange	1					1
<b>FAUNA</b>						
Invertebrate						
Shell						
Button	1					1
unidentified	1					1
<b>METAL</b>						
Lead						
roofing nail cap	1					1
Iron						
broken ring			1			1
nail						
type 1-12			1			1
Cuprous						
Buckle	1					1
Unidentified	1					1
<b>BRICK</b>						
fire						
unglazed	3					3
<b>SYNTHETIC PRODUCT</b>						
Plastic						
Bead	1					1
Unidentified	1					1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>148</b>

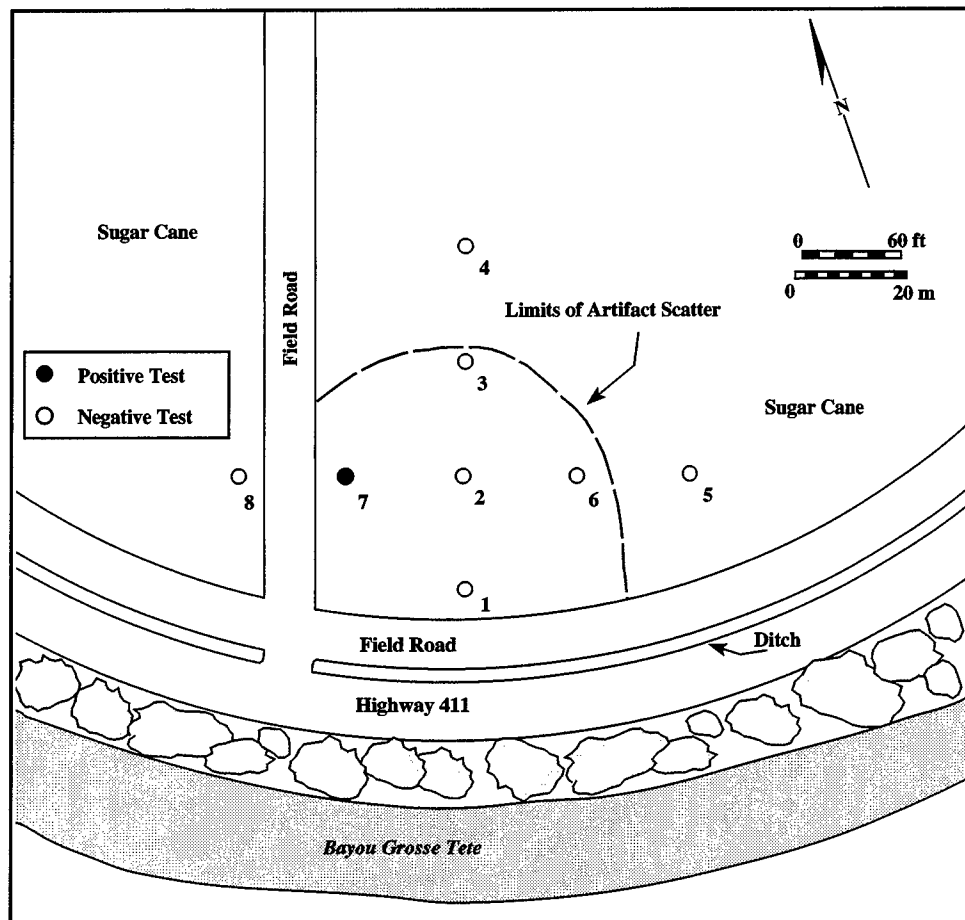


Figure 6-13. Sketch map of the Hot Sauce site (16IV65).

and the identification of this variety is probably less than useful.

Historic artifacts were common throughout the site. Pearlware, late pearlware, early whiteware, common whiteware, ironstone, and stoneware were all commonly encountered (Table 6-14), as was molded vessel glass and a few shards of clear purple glass. These artifacts probably represent a continuous occupation between 1830 and 1915. Single sherds of basalt and canary yellowware may date the site as early as 1790, but a lack of creamware suggests a later date or that these were heirloom pieces. Annular, blue-edged, transfer-print, and hand-painted decorative motifs were common in these collections. The majority of the early- to mid-nineteenth century diagnostics were collected from the central and southern portions of the site, while later wares were scatter thinly throughout the site.

#### ***Comments and Recommendations***

It is unfortunate that no intact cultural deposits were found at Gay Place No. 2. It is certainly an interesting site, with prehistoric, ante-bellum, post-bellum, and turn-of-the-twentieth century components. It is almost certain that the ante-bellum and post-Civil War residents had access to high-status goods and possessed some degree of wealth. Due to the depth of time offered by the site as well as the potential historical significance, this site is recommended for further testing for evaluation of significance.

#### ***16IV68 Persimmon Plantation No. 2***

##### ***Location and Description***

The second Persimmon Plantation site lies 430 m north/northwest of the first, on the crest of the eastern natural levee of Bayou Grosse Tete (Figure



**Table 6-11. Artifacts from the Hot Sauce Site (16IV65).**

	Surface Collection
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>	
Baytown Plain	
<i>var. unspecified</i>	11
Unidentified Incised on Baytown Plain,	
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>	
Refined Earthenware	
Whiteware	
Undecorated	
undecorated	6
Ironstone	
Undecorated	
Undecorated	3
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware	
Undecorated	
undecorated	1
Stoneware	
Albany (Int.), Unglazed (ext.)	
Undecorated	
undecorated	1
Albany (Int.), Bristol (ext.)	
Undecorated	
undecorated	2
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)	
Undecorated	
undecorated	1
<b>GLASS</b>	
Machine Made	
Unidentified Mold Type	
Unidentified machine type	
clear	2
clear purple	1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique	
clear	5
clear blue	3
clear purple	1
light blue	1
milk (white)	5
Glass	
marble	
clear green, milk, milk (green)	1
<b>METAL</b>	
Iron	
unidentified	
unidentified	1
<b>SYNTHETIC PRODUCTS</b>	
Synthetic	
Plastic	
phonographic record	2
Rubber	
unidentified	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>51</b>

6-18). The site measures 60 by 70 m, and is comprised largely of brick and other historic artifacts. Visibility was poor at the time of collection due to cane chaff, so the full extent and density of surface finds may not be known. Delineation was accomplished with two crossing transects of shovel tests spaced at 20 m intervals. Stratigraphy at the site was comprised of a yellowish brown (10YR5/4) silt loam subsoil overlain by a brown to dark brown (10YR4/3) silt loam plowzone from 0 to 14 cm thick. The first four shovel tests (STs 1 to 4) yielded a few historic artifacts, mostly brick, container glass and metal. No intact deposits were noted.

Historic artifacts collected from the Persimmon Plantation No. 2 site included common whiteware, ivory-tinted whiteware, ironstone, stoneware, molded vessel glass and vessel glass of unidentified manufacturing technique (Table 6-15). A sherd of hand-painted flow blue whiteware indicates an occupation at the site prior to 1900, as may much of the ironstone and the molded glass. However, decaled sherds and examples of ivory tinted whiteware indicate a more typical early-twentieth century occupation, along with shards of clear purple and clear yellow glass. The site was probably occupied continuously between 1870 and 1930.

#### *Comments and Recommendations*

No intact deposits were noted at Persimmon Plantation No. 2. This site is an unlikely candidate for further testing, and is not believed to be archaeologically or historically significant.

#### *16IV70 Skeeter Bayou*

#### *Location and Description*

Located on Bayou Maringouin, Skeeter Bayou is a very large (270 by 100 m, oriented north to south) historic and prehistoric occupation on the east side of the bayou, just north of the West Oaks Lane bridge (Figure 6-19). Skeeter Bayou lies on Commerce silt loam deposits on the crest of the natural levee here. The historic component covers only the southern half of the site, while the prehistoric scatter occupies the length and breadth of the site. Its possible relationship with West Oaks No. 2 (16IV59) just to the south has already been mentioned.

This large scatter was tested with two transects of shovel tests spaced at 20 m intervals. Three positive tests (STs 8, 13, and 14) yielded only historic mate-

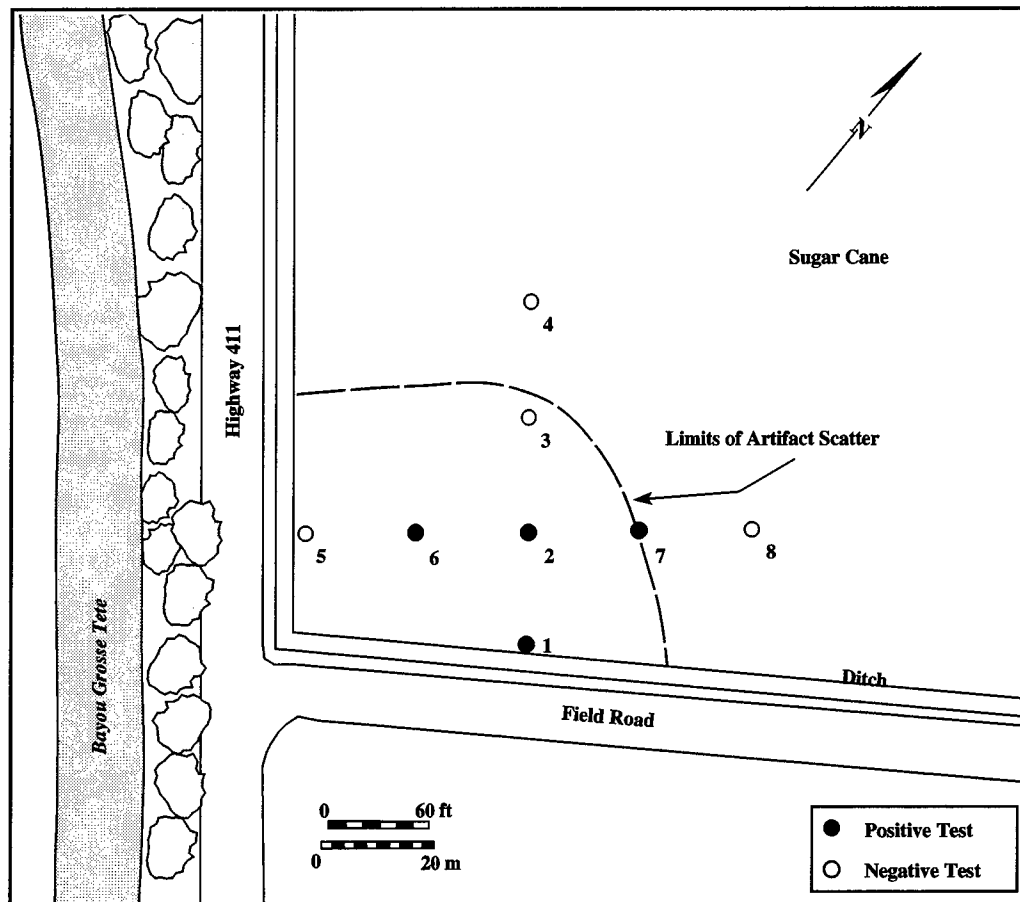


Figure 6-14. Sketch map of the Gay Place No. 1 site (16IV66).

rials (brick, glass, ceramic and metal) from the plowzone; no prehistoric artifacts were noted in excavated contexts. Typically, a shovel test profile consisted of a 15 cm-thick dark gray (10YR4/1) silt loam plowzone covering a yellowish brown (10YR5/4) silt loam subsoil.

Prehistoric artifacts from the Skeeter Bayou site are comprised largely of Baytown Plain sherds, including a minority of *var. Addis* (Table 6-16). Sherds of Coles Creek Incised, Mazique Incised, *var. Mazique*, and Rhinehart Punctated signal a Coles Creek period component (A.D. 700 to 1200), probably from the early to middle phases (A.D. 700 - 1000; Figure 6-20). However, the sherds of *Addis*, *Plaquemine*, and *Mazique Incised, var. Manchac* probably indicate a Mississippi period component (A.D. 1200 to 1650) as well. Sherds of Bell Plain, *var. St. Catherine* may indicate a late Mississippi period (A.D. 1450 to 1650) presence at the site as well.

Historic artifacts were plentiful at Skeeter Bayou (Table 6-17, Figures 6-21 to 6-23). Early whiteware decorated with banded annular designs was present at the site, dating between 1828 and 1860 (Lofstrom 1976:10), but pearlware was not present in the collections. Annular (banded) and blue-edged whitewares probably date to the middle and late decades of the nineteenth century. Bristol- and Albany-slipped stonewares indicate a turn-of-the-twentieth-century date, while fiestaware and ivory-tinted whiteware generally date to the first half of the twentieth century. Container glass at the site was machine made, with the exception of several shards unidentified as to manufacturing technique. The examples of olive glass probably have a nineteenth century date, while the clear purple glass was probably manufactured at the turn-of-the-twentieth-century. Two glass manufacturer's marks were made by the Owens Illinois Glass Co., dating to 1935 and post-1954 (Toulouse 1972:403). A third mark belonged to the Knox Bottle Glass Co. of Mississippi, and dated from 1932 to

Table 6-12. Artifacts from the Gay Place No. 1 Site (16IV66).

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #2	Shovel Test #6	Shovel Test #13	TOTAL
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>					
Refined Earthenware					
Whiteware					
Undecorated					
undecorated	10				10
Ironstone					
Stencil					
green	1				1
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware					
Undecorated					
undecorated	2				2
Dark Ivory-Tinted Whiteware					
Undecorated					
undecorated	2				2
Unidentified Refined Earthenware					
Undecorated					
Undecorated		2			2
Stoneware					
Albany (Int.), Bristol (ext.)					
Undecorated					
undecorated	2				2
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)					0
Blue on white					0
undecorated	1				1
Undecorated					
undecorated	1				1
Bristol (Int.), Slip (ext.)					
Undecorated					
undecorated					
Unidentified (Int.), Unidentified (ext.)					
Undecorated					
undecorated	3	1			4
Porcelain					
Hard Paste					
Molded					
undecorated	1				1
Undecorated					
undecorated	2				2
<b>GLASS</b>					
Molded					
Unidentified Mold Type					
Lipping Tooled					
clear	1				1
Machine Made					
Unidentified Mold Type					
Unidentified machine type					
clear			1		1
milk (white)	1				1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique					
brown	5				5
clear	7	2	1	2	12
clear blue	2				2
clear green				1	1
modern green	1				1
<b>METAL</b>					
Iron					
nail					
type 1-12		1			1
type 1-10		1			1
unidentified					
unidentified		6		2	8
<b>STONE</b>					
Construction Material					
Slate					
Unidentified			1		1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>63</b>

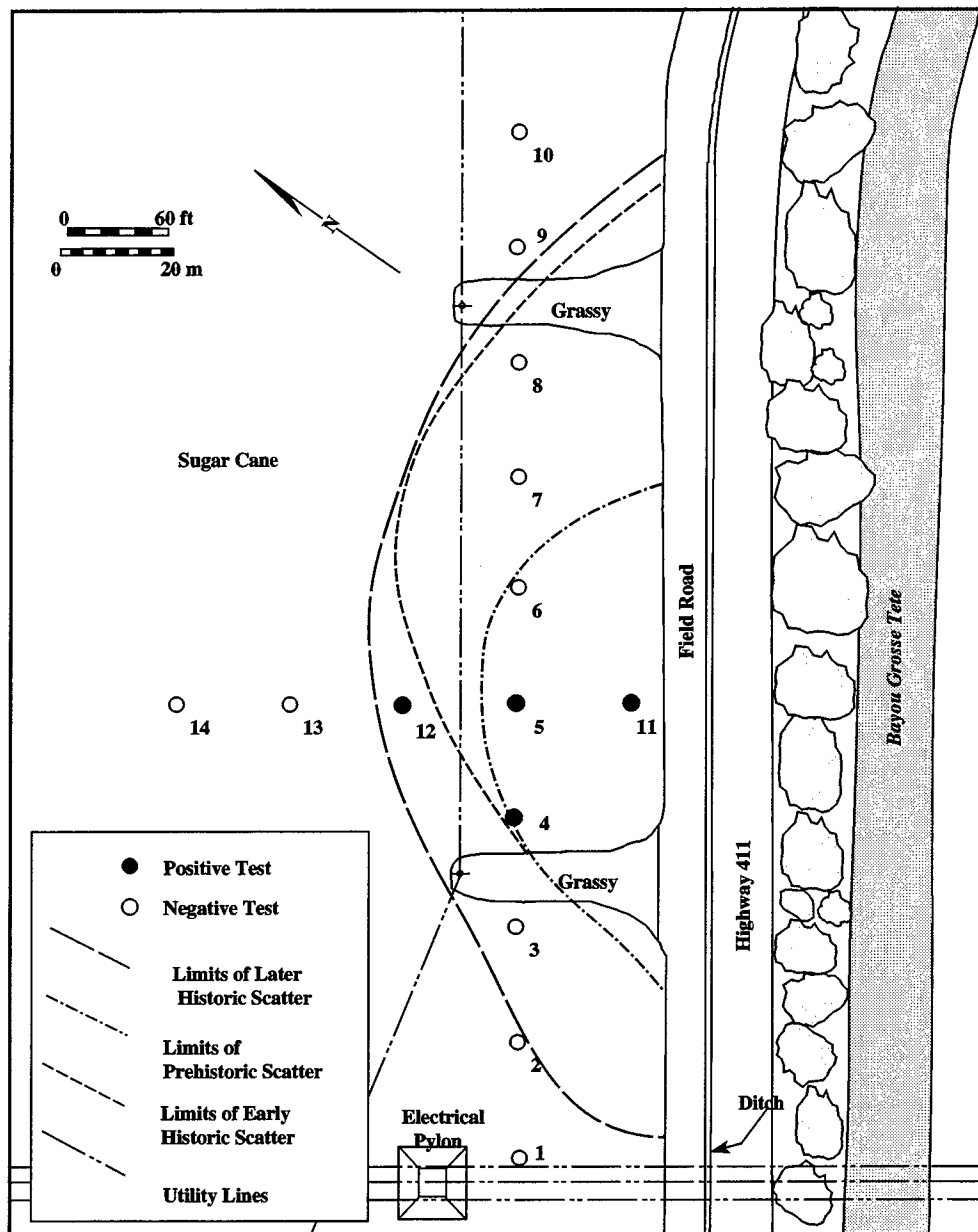


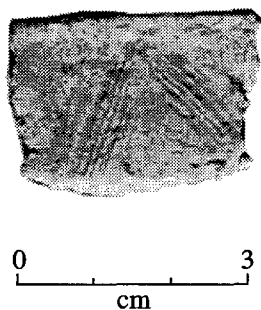
Figure 6-15. Sketch map of the Gay Place No. 2 site (16IV67).

1953 (Toulouse 1972:271). Other items include a 1957 wheat penny minted in Denver, a 12-gauge shotgun shell, a two-piece brass button, and a small cuprous finger ring, possibly a wedding band. Overall, the assemblage appears to represent a continuous occupation between 1830 and 1960.

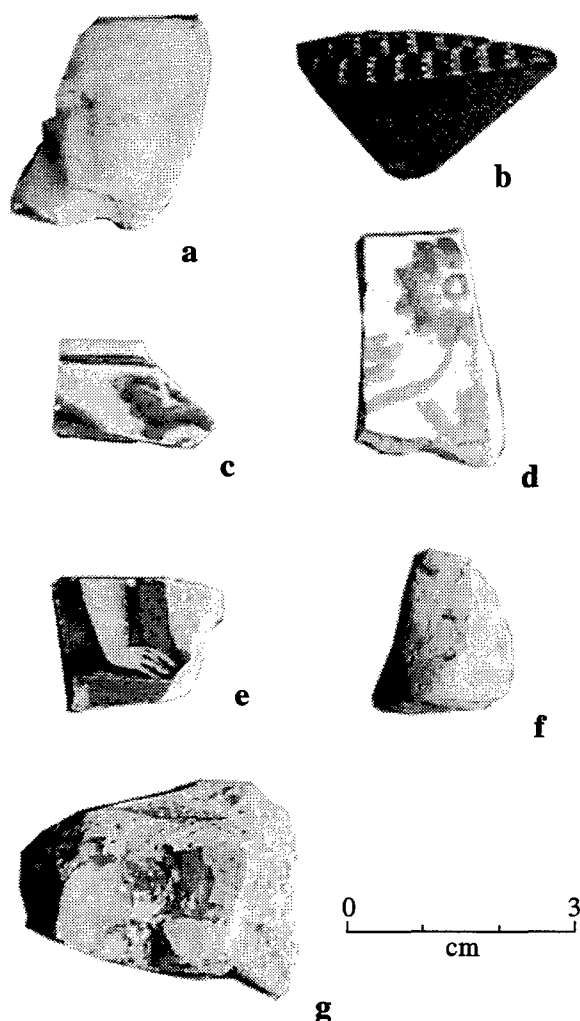
#### *Comments and Recommendations*

Skeeter Bayou is a large prehistoric (Coles Creek, Plaquemine/Mississippi period, and Late Mississippi

period) site with major nineteenth and twentieth century components. Although no intact deposits were encountered at the site, it nonetheless remains notable for its size and prehistoric artifact density. Whereas most aboriginal sites found on Bayous Grosse Tete and Maringouin are quite small and have produced very few artifacts, Skeeter Bayou appears to represent a different type of site, with implications for the settlement model of the area. This site is recommended for further testing to assess its significance.



**Figure 6-16.** Sherd of Plaquemine Brushed, var. Plaquemine, recovered from the Gay Place No. 2 site (16IV67).



**Figure 6-17.** Historic material recovered from the Gay Place No. 2 site (16IV67). a) Canary yellowware; b) Basalt ware; c-d) Stamped early whiteware; e) Transfer-printed whiteware; f-g) Iberian storage jar fragments.

### 16IV71 West Oaks No. 3

#### *Location and Description*

The third West Oaks site lies directly across from the Skeeter Bayou site (16IV70), in cultivated fields on the western natural levee of Bayou Maringouin. This is a small (40 by 40 m), thin historic scatter on Commerce soils (Figure 6-24). The site was tested with two crossing transects of shovel tests dug at 20 meter intervals. A single test (ST 2) encountered brick in the plowzone, but all other tests were sterile. Shovel test stratigraphy consisted of a dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) silty clay plowzone from 0 to 15 cm below surface, above a brown to dark brown (10YR4/3) silty clay subsoil.

Ceramics from the West Oaks No. 3 surface collection included common whiteware, ironstone, ivory-tinted whiteware, and stoneware (Table 6-18). A single annular (banded) whiteware sherd suggested a mid-nineteenth century date, but this variety can date as late as the 1870's. The remaining decorated common and ivory-tinted whiteware sherds bore decalcomania and repoussé designs, suggesting occupation between 1900 and 1930. Machine and clear purple glass of unidentified manufacture were collected as well. A single piece of glass was marked with an Owens Illinois Glass Co. symbol from 1930. Additionally, a single 1936 wheat penny was also found. This assemblage probably dates the site to between 1870 and 1940.

#### *Comments and Recommendations*

West Oaks No. 3, like many of the other West Oaks sites, is a small scatter probably representing a tenant house from the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century. Mr. Price Gay, the farmer of this property, remembers tenant houses scattered along the east edges of these fields on West Oaks, most of which were torn down in the 1960's and 1970's. Certainly, almost all of them were gone by the time the 1992 Maringouin, LA 7.5' quadrangle was published. West Oaks No. 3 is unlikely to produce intact features or deposits, and further research is not recommended.

### 16IV72 West Oaks No. 4

#### *Location and Description*

West Oaks No. 4 is a large (160 by 180 m) scatter of historic artifacts on the west side of Bayou

**Table 6-13. Prehistoric Artifacts from the Gay Place No. 2 Site (16IV67).**

	Surface Collection
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>	
Baytown Plain	
<i>var. Addis</i>	5
<i>var. Vicksburg</i>	1
<i>var. unspecified</i>	66
Plaquemine Brushed	
<i>var. Plaquemine</i>	1
Unidentified Incised on Baytown Plain	
<i>var. unspecified</i>	4
<b>PREHISTORIC LITHICS</b>	
Chipped Stone	
Chert	
Flake	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>83</b>

Maringouin, about 100 m south of the West Oaks Lane bridge (Figure 6-25). The site is situated on Commerce soils on the western natural levee of Bayou Maringouin. The southern end of the site is occupied by the West Oaks Lane cemetery, a small graveyard with 16 south Louisiana-style, low above-ground cement vaults dating from 1925 into the 1980's. Several burials are without names or dates, and some have only names scratched into the concrete of the vault. Several low spots in the cemetery suggest unmarked graves.

The West Oaks No. 4 site was tested with two crossing transects of shovel tests spaced at 20 m intervals. Shovel test profiles revealed a 16 cm-thick dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) silty clay plowzone over a dark brown (10YR3/3) silty clay subsoil. Most tests yielded historic artifacts, including historic ceramics, glass, metal, charcoal and brick, almost all from the plowzone. However, ST 7, near the south end of the site, yielded a very dark gray (10YR3/1) silty clay soil from nine to 25 cm below surface, rich in charcoal, brick, and faunal material, with a single piece of common whiteware. This layer, found just beneath the plowzone, probably represents an historic feature or sheet midden.

The collected assemblage from the West Oaks No. 4 site consisted largely of historic ceramics, with

a small amount of container glass (Table 6-19). Pearlware, late pearlware, early whiteware, and ironstone were all present in these collections, indicating a date between 1830 and 1920. Molded vessel glass and olive and olive amber glass indicate an occupation in the early part of this sequence, while a shard of machine-made glass and pieces of clear-purple glass come from the later portion.

#### *Comments and Recommendations*

West Oaks No. 4 is an historic site dating from the middle decades of the nineteenth century well into the earliest years of the twentieth century. The presence of at least one intact feature in a site this age may make the site a focus of productive research. Further testing of the site is therefore recommended for assessment of National Register eligibility.

#### *16IV73 West Oaks No. 5*

##### *Location and Description*

The West Oaks No. 5 site is a small (50 by 40 m) scatter of prehistoric and historic artifacts on Commerce soils on the western natural levee of Bayou Maringouin, just 75 m south of the West Oaks Lane Cemetery (Figure 6-26). The site was delineated with the standard crossing transects of shovel tests

Table 6-14. Historic Artifacts from the Gay Place No. 2 Site (16IV67).

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #5	Shovel Test #12	TOTAL
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>				
Coarse Earthenware				
Buffware				
Lead Glazed	3			3
Semi-Refined Earthenware				
Yellowware				
Annular (banded)				
brown	1			1
Annular (Dendritic)				
green	2			2
blue	1			1
Annular (Mocha)				
blue	2			2
Molded and Rockingham	2			2
Rockingham	1			1
Undecorated				
Undecorated	6			6
Refined Earthenware				
Pearlware				
Undecorated				
Undecorated	9			9
Annular (Banded)				
monochrome	5			5
polychrome	1			1
Late Pearlware				
Undecorated				
undecorated	2			2
Early Whiteware				
Annular (Banded)				
monochrome	5			5
Edged (var. unscaloped)				
blue	2			2
Hand Painted				
monochrome	3			3
polychrome	2			2
Hand Painted and Stamped				
polychrome	3			3
Molded				
undecorated	1		1	2
Stamped				
polychrome	1			1
Undecorated				
undecorated	4			4
Whiteware				
Transfer-printed				
flow blue	2			2
flow blue (revival)	1			1
blue	4			4
black	1			1
green	1			1
Transfer-printed and clobbered				
polychrome	1			1
Hand-painted				
monochrome	1			1
polychrome	1			1
flow blue	5			5
Annular (banded)				
monochrome	3			3
polychrome	6			6
Edged (unscaloped)				
blue	9			9
green	3			3
Molded				
undecorated	1			1
Undecorated				
undecorated	44			44
Ironstone				
Molded				
undecorated	7			7
Undecorated				
Undecorated	22			22

(continued)

Table 6-14. Concluded.

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #5	Shovel Test #12	TOTAL
Unidentified Refined Earthenware				
Edged (unscaloped)				
blue	2			2
Undecorated				
Undecorated	3			3
Basalt				
Annular (Rouletted)	1			1
Canary Yellow				
Molded				
undecorated	1			1
Stoneware				
Albany (Int.), Salt (ext.)				
Undecorated				
undecorated	10			10
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)				
Blue on white and Molded				
undecorated	1			1
Slip (Int.), slip (ext.)				
Undecorated				
undecorated	1			1
Slip (Int.), salt (ext.)				
Undecorated				
undecorated	2			2
Unglazed (int.), Salt (ext.)				
Undecorated				
undecorated	9			9
Porcelain				
Hard Paste				
Undecorated				
undecorated	4			4
Button				
Molded	1			1
Undecorated	3			3
Semi-Porcelain				
Undecorate				
undecorated	1			1
<b>GLASS</b>				
Free Blown				
Unidentified Pontilling technique				
Unidentified lipping technique				
olive amber	1			1
Molded				
Cup-Bottom Mold				
Unidentified lipping technique				
light blue	1			1
Unidentified Mold Type				
Lipping Tooled				
clear blue	1			1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique				
brown	2			2
clear	1			1
clear blue	3			3
clear green	1			1
clear purple	4			4
emerald	1			1
light blue	1			1
milk (white)	1			1
olive	8	1		9
olive amber	9			9
<b>STONE</b>				
Construction Material				
Slate				
Unidentified	3			3
<b>BRICK</b>				
fire glazed	1			1
<b>MINERAL</b>				
Quartz				
unidentified	1			1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>248</b>



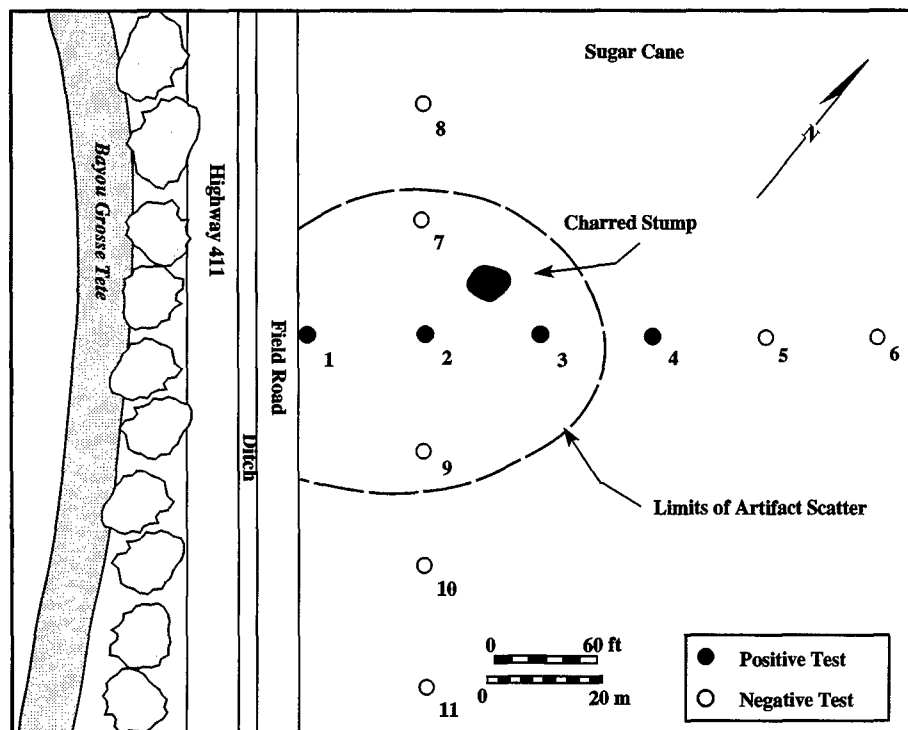


Figure 6-18. Sketch map of the Persimmon Plantation No. 2 site (16IV68).

dug at 20 m intervals. All but two shovel tests (STs 2 and 8) were sterile, yielding a dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) silty clay plowzone (0-14 cm deep) over a dark yellowish brown (10YR4/4) silty clay subsoil. Positive tests produced small numbers of brick fragments from plowzone contexts.

The small prehistoric collection from West Oaks No. 5 was largely given over to plainwares (Table 6-20). A single sherd of *var. Plaquemine* probably dates to the early Mississippi period (A.D. 1200 to 1650). Historic artifacts include pearlware, common whiteware, ironstone, and stoneware. Decorative techniques on whiteware included annular (banded), stamped, edged, and black transfer-printed motifs. The annular sherds probably date from between 1828 and 1860 (Lofstrom 1976:10), whereas the stamped sherd dates between 1845 and 1895 (Price 1982:20). Unscalloped edged-blue whiteware typically dates from 1830 to 1860 (Hunter and Miller 1994:434). In conjunction with the pearlware, these sherds suggest an occupation dating from the mid-nineteenth century. Glass shards include olive and clear purple glass of unidentified manufacturing technique. The historic assemblage suggests a continuous occupation between about 1845 and 1880.

#### Comments and Recommendations

The West Oaks No. 5 site is a small Plaquemine (A.D. 1200 to 1450) and mid- to late-nineteenth century historic occupation on the west side of Bayou Maringouin. The site does not appear to possess integrity, and is not recommended for further investigation.

#### 16IV74 West Oaks No. 6

##### Location and Description

The sixth West Oaks site (16IV74) is a large (160 by 80 m, oriented north to south), fairly dense scatter of historic artifacts, most of them recent. The site is located on Commerce soils on the western natural levee of Bayou Grosse Tete, about 180 m south of the West Oaks Lane bridge (Figure 6-27). A structure existed here as late as 1992, when the most recent version of the Maringouin, LA 7.5' quadrangle was published. Judging by the quantity of recent garbage present, it appears that the structure and surrounding area may have been used as a dump as well, possibly after the structure was abandoned.

Table 6-15. Artifacts from the Persimmon Plantation No. 2 Site (16IV68).

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #2	Shovel Test #3	Shovel Test #4	Shovel Test #10	TOTAL
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>						
Refined Earthenware						
Whiteware						
Transfer-printed						
flow blue	1					1
Hand-painted						
monochrome	2					2
Decalcomania						
fugitive	1					1
monochrome and fugitive	1					1
Undecorated						
undecorated	5			1		6
Ironstone						
Undecorated						
Undecorated	4					4
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware						
Undecorated						
undecorated	4					4
Stoneware						
Albany (Int.), Bristol (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated	1					1
Porcelain						
Hard Paste						
Decalcomania						
polychrome	1					1
Undecorated						
undecorated	1			1		2
<b>GLASS</b>						
Molded						
Unidentified Mold Type						
Lipping Tooled						
clear	1					1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique						
clear	4	1	2		1	8
milk (white)	4					4
olive	1					1
<b>FAUNA</b>						
Invertebrate						
Shell		1				1
<b>METAL</b>						
Iron						
Unidentified						
unidentified			1			1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>39</b>

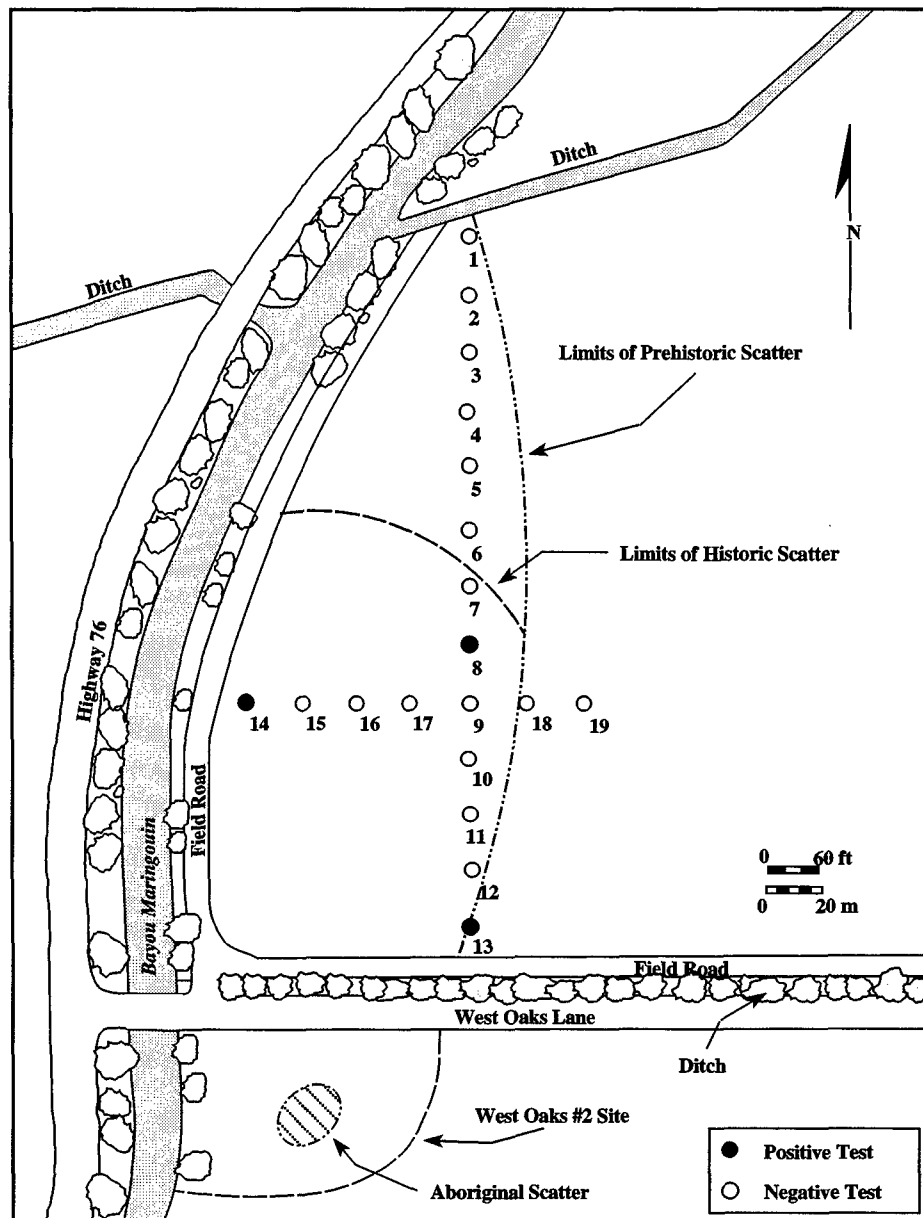


Figure 6-19. Sketch map of the Skeeter Bayou site (16IV70).

West Oaks No. 6 was delineated with two crossing transects of shovel tests spaced at 20 m intervals. Three tests (STs 2, 3, and 14) yielded brick fragments, and ST 14 also yielded a piece of glass and an amorphous piece of badly corroded iron. No artifacts or stratigraphy were noted below the plowzone. Shovel test stratigraphy revealed a 15 cm-deep dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) silty clay plowzone covering a sterile brown (10YR3/3) oxidized silty clay subsoil.

The site produced ceramics typical of the early and middle decades of the twentieth century (Table

6-21). This includes sherds of common whiteware, ivory-tinted whiteware, and porcelain. Almost half of the glass found at the site could be identified as machine-made. Several vessels bore maker's marks, including four Owens Illinois Glass Company bottles. One dated from 1929 - 1954, another from 1931 to date, and two more postdated 1954 (Toulouse 1972:403). Each of these was made by an Owens machine. The latest two were identified as Dr. Tichenor's antiseptic bottles, while the other two were Vicks Vaporub and Clorox bleach containers, respectively. While the collected inventory probably does not postdate 1960, several pieces of plastic were noted

Table 6-16. Prehistoric Artifacts from the Skeeter Bayou Site (16IV70).

	Surface Collection
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>	
Baytown Plain	
<i>var. Addis</i>	8
<i>var. unspecified</i>	65
Bell Plain	
<i>var. St. Catherine</i>	4
Coles Creek Incised	
<i>var. unspecified</i>	2
Mazique Incised	
<i>var. Mazique</i>	1
<i>var. Manchac</i>	3
Plaquemine Brushed	
<i>var. Plaquemine</i>	1
Rhinehart Punctated	
<i>var. unspecified</i>	2
Unidentified Incised on Baytown Plain	
<i>var. unspecified</i>	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>92</b>

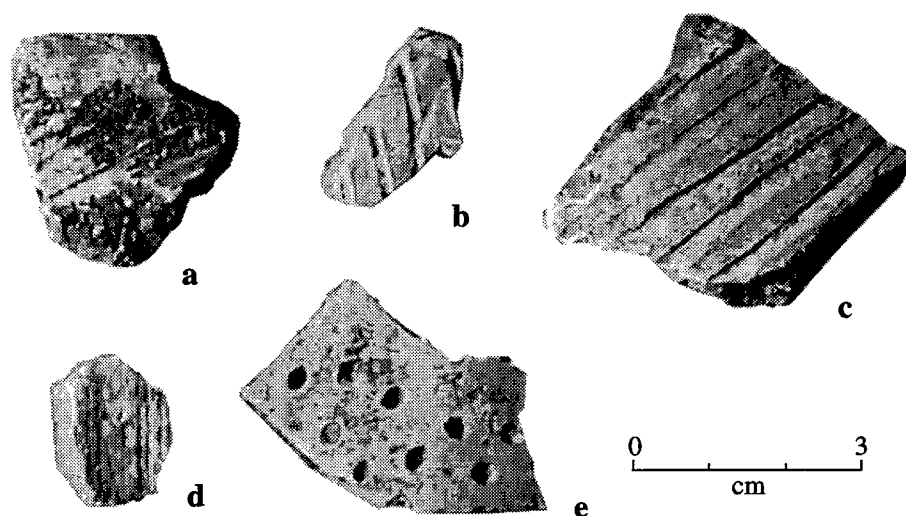


Figure 6-20. Prehistoric material recovered from the Skeeter Bayou site (16IV70). a-b) Mazique Incised, *var. Manchac*; c) Mazique Incised, *var. Mazique*; d) Plaquemine Brushed, *var. Plaquemine*; e) Rhinehart Punctated, *var. unspecified*.

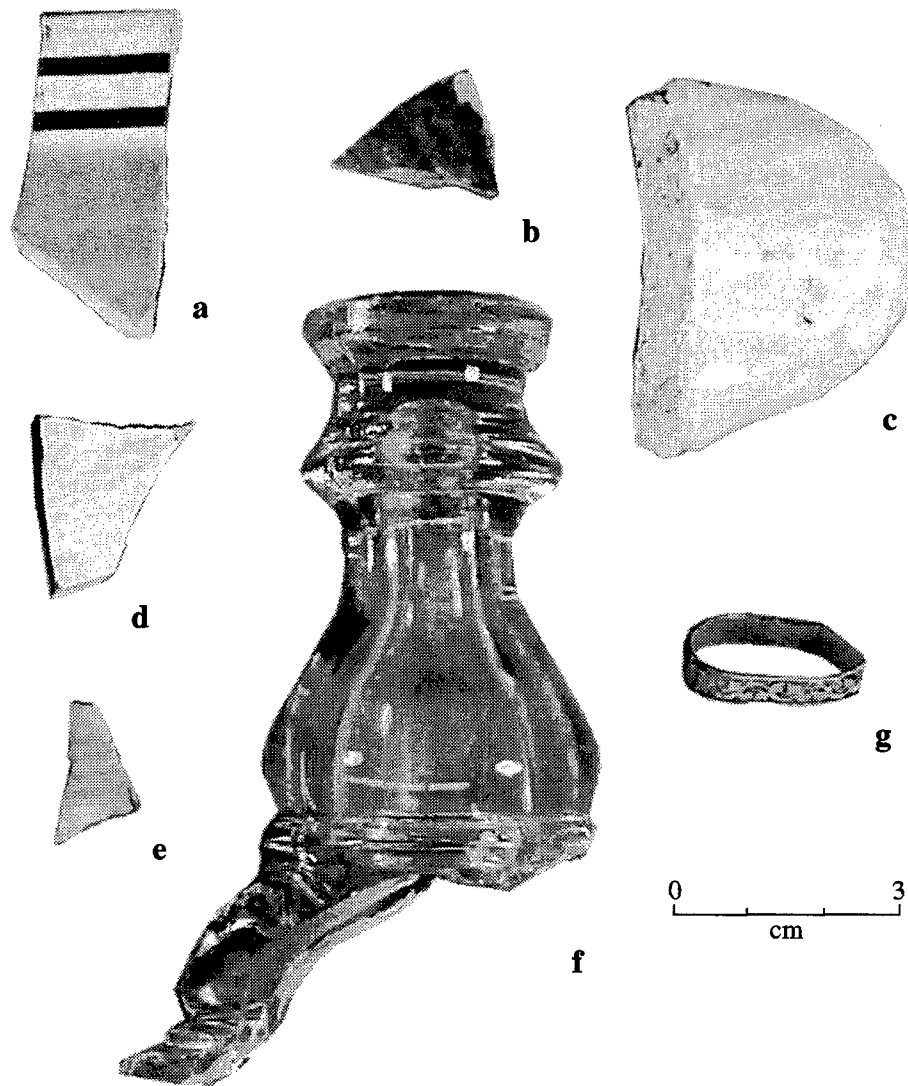
**Table 6-17. Historic Artifacts from the Skeeter Bayou Site (16IV70).**

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #13	TOTAL
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>			
Refined Earthenware			
Early Whiteware			
Annular (Banded)			
polychrome	1		1
Whiteware			
Transfer-printed			
blue	1		1
Annular (banded)			
monochrome	4		4
Decalcomania			
polychrome	1		1
Molded			
undecorated	2		2
Molded, Decalcomania and Gilt			
monochrome	1		1
Undecorated			
undecorated	6	1	7
Ironstone			
Molded			
undecorated	1		1
Transfer-printed			
red	1		1
Undecorated			
Undecorated	10		10
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware			
Transfer-printed			
blue	1		1
Transfer-printed and Clobbered			
Brown and Red	1		1
Decalcomania			
polychrome	4		4
Molded			
undecorated	3		3
Undecorated			
undecorated	9		9
Fiestaware			
Undecorated			
Burgundy	1		1
Turquoise	1		1
Unidentified Refined Earthenware			
Hand-painted			
red	1		1
Undecorated			
Undecorated	2		2
Stoneware			
Albany (Int.), Salt (ext.)			
Undecorated			
undecorated	3		3
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)			
Blue on white			
undecorated	2		2
Slip (Int.), salt (ext.)			
Undecorated			
undecorated	1		1
Unglazed (int.), Salt (ext.)			
Undecorated	1		1
undecorated			
Unidentified (Int.), Albany (Ext.)			
Undecorated			
undecorated	1		1
Porcelain			
Hard Paste			
Hand-painted			
monochrome	2		2
polychrome			
Decalcomania and Hand-Painted			
orange and fugitive	1		1
Molded			
undecorated	3		3
Undecorated			
undecorated	3		3
Button			
Undecorated	1		1
Molded	1		1
Parian			
Figurine	2		2
Semi-Porcelain			
Insulator	1		1

(continued)

Table 6-17. Concluded.

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #13	TOTAL
<b>GLASS</b>			
Machine Made			
Unidentified Mold Type			
Owens machine made			
clear	4		4
cobalt blue	1		1
Unidentified machine type			
clear	1		1
clear purple	1		1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique			
brown	2		2
clear	6	1	7
clear blue	1		1
clear green	2		2
clear purple	11		11
cobalt blue	6		6
milk (green)	5		5
milk (white)	4		4
olive	1		1
yellow	1		1
Glass			
marble			
milk (white), blue	1		1
light blue, clear	1		1
clear, milk(white), milk (green)	1		1
clear green, red, milk (white)	1		1
light blue, milk	1		1
<b>FLORA</b>			
Charcoal	2		2
Wood			
Shoe heel	1		1
<b>FAUNA</b>			
Vertebrate			
Unidentified			
unidentified	1		1
<b>METAL</b>			
Lead			
roofing nail cap	1		1
Unidentified	2		2
Brass			
Button			
unidentified	2		2
Cartridge	1		1
Unidentified	1		1
Copper			
Coin			
Penny	1		1
band	1		1
ferrule	1		1
Aluminum/zinc			
tube			
unidentified	3		3
<b>STONE</b>			
Construction Material			
Slate			
Unidentified	1		1
Asbestos			
Tile	2		2
<b>MINERAL</b>			
Graphite			
Battery rod	2		2
<b>SYNTHETIC PRODUCT</b>			
Synthetic			
Plastic			
record	5		5
comb	1		1
unidentified	2		2
toy trumpet	1		1
bead	2		2
Unidentified			
unidentified	1		1
button	2		2
<b>COAL SLAG</b>	1		1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>163</b>



**Figure 6-21. Historic material recovered from the Skeeter Bayou site (16IV70).**  
a) Annular-banded early whiteware; b) Blue-on-white Bristol-slipped stoneware; c) Molded ironstone handle; d) Decalcomania-decorated ivory-tinted whiteware; e) Fiesta ware; f) Clear purple glass lid, probably from a candy dish; g) Cuprous ring.

but not collected, including toys, bottles, and utensils. These probably date into the 1970s or 1980s.

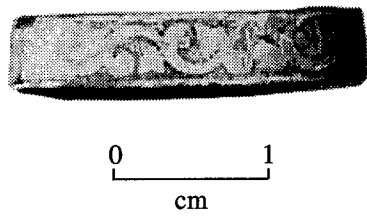
#### ***Comments and Recommendations***

West Oaks No. 6 is a scatter of historic artifacts which date from the first three quarters of the twentieth century. The lack of subsoil deposits and the largely recent date of the finds probably limit the research potential of the site, and further testing is not recommended.

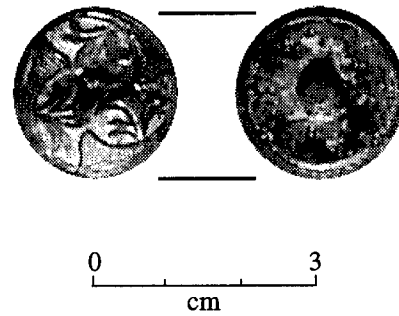
#### ***16IV75 West Oaks No. 7***

##### ***Location and Description***

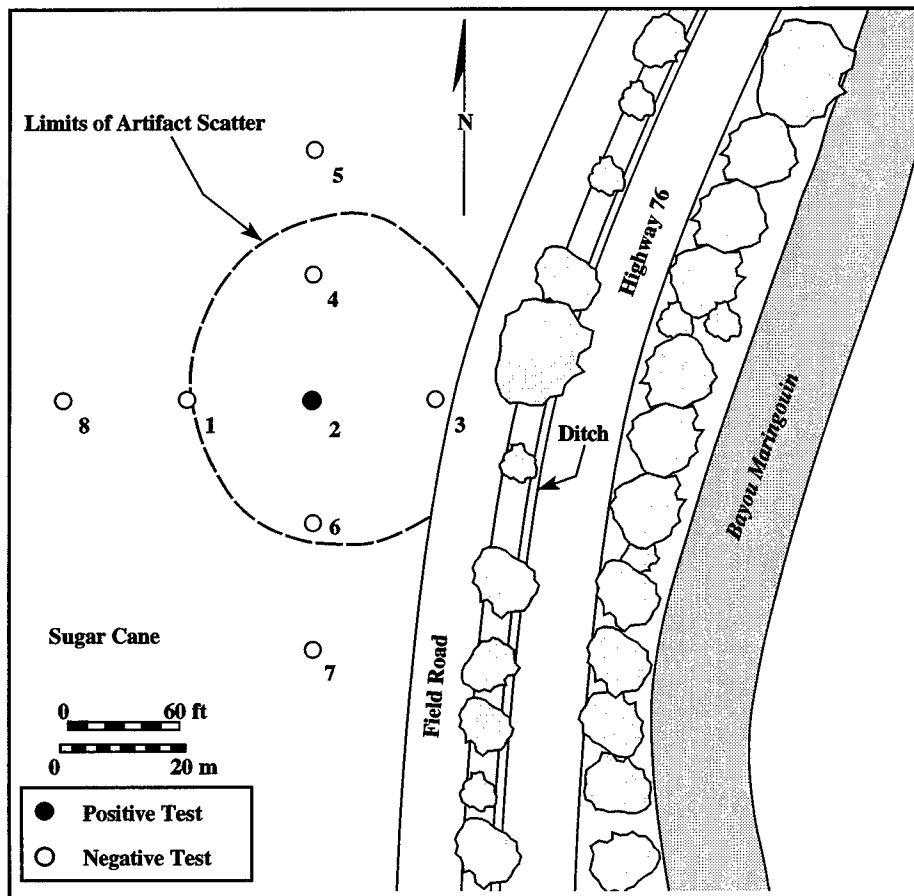
Two hundred meters south of West Oaks No. 6 (16IV74) lies the seventh West Oaks site, on the same western natural levee formation as the previous four. West Oaks No. 7 sits just across LA Highway 76 from the Ramah Full Gospel Church, on Commerce soils (Figure 6-28). This site is typical of the West Oaks sites, a small (50 by 40 m) scatter of historic



**Figure 6-22.** Close-up of cuprous ring from Skeeter Bayou (16IV70).



**Figure 6-23.** Front and back views of two-piece brass button from Skeeter Bayou (16IV70).



**Figure 6-24.** Sketch map of the West Oaks No. 3 site (16IV71).



Table 6-18. Artifacts from the West Oaks No. 3 Site (16IV71).

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #6	TOTAL
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>			
Semi-Refined Earthenware			
Yellowware			
Annular (banded)			
polychrome	1		1
Refined Earthenware			
Whiteware			
Annular (banded)			
monochrome	1		1
Decalcomania			
monochrome	1		1
polychrome and fugitive	1		1
Repoussé			
Undecorated	1		1
Repoussé and Decalcomania			
yellow and fugitive	1		1
Undecorated			
undecorated	2		2
Ironstone			
Molded and Decalcomania			
polychrome	1		1
Decalcomania			
monochrome	1		1
polychrome	1		1
Repoussé			
undecorated	1		1
Undecorated			
undecorated	1		1
Stoneware			
Albany (Int.), Bristol (ext.)			
Undecorated			
undecorated	3		3
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)			
Blue on white			
undecorated	2		2
Blue on yellow			
undecorated	1		1
Undecorated			
undecorated	3		3
Porcelain			
Bisque			
Painted	2		2
Hard Paste			
Decalcomania			
polychrome	1		1
Semi-Porcelain			
Spark Plug	1		1
<b>GLASS</b>			
Molded			
Machine Made			
Unidentified Mold Type			
Unidentified machine type			
brown	1		1
clear	1		1
clear blue	1		1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique			
clear	6	1	7
clear green	2		2
clear purple	5		5
light blue	2		2
milk (green)	1		1
milk (white)	10		10
Glass			
Bead			
Undecorated			
red	1		1
Marble			
clear green, milk (purple), milk (white)	1		1
milk, orange	1		1
milk, orange, clear blue	1		1
<b>FAUNA</b>			
Vertebrate			
Non-human			
unidentified	1		1
<b>METAL</b>			
Copper			
Coin			
Penny	1		1
<b>STONE</b>			
Construction Material			
Asbestos			
Tile	1		1
<b>SYNTHETIC PRODUCT</b>			
Synthetic			
Rubber			
Tire	1		1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>64</b>

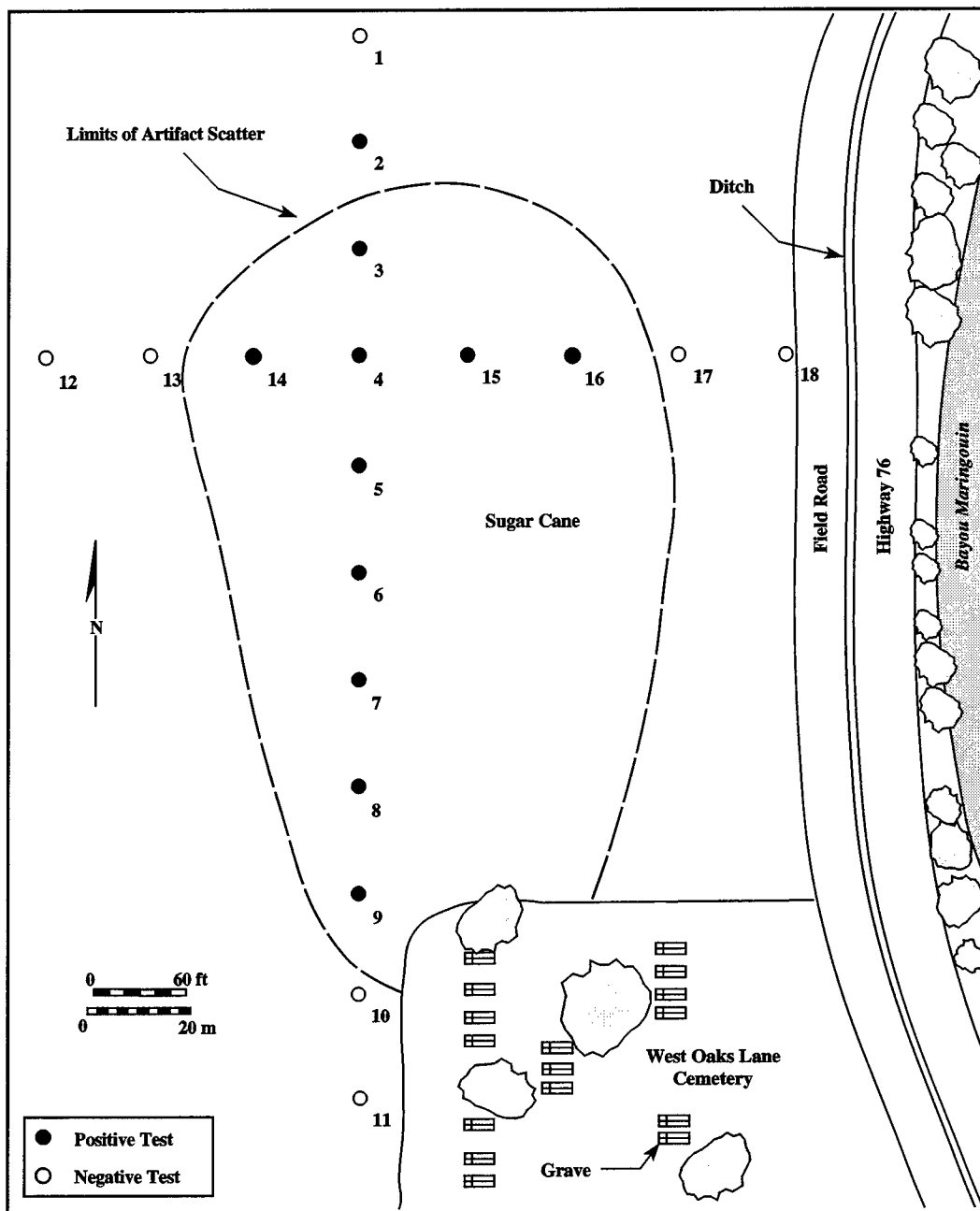


Figure 6-25. Sketch map of the West Oaks No. 4 site (16IV72).

artifacts dating largely to the early half of the twentieth century. West Oaks No. 7 was delineated with the standard two transects of shovel tests spaced at 20 m intervals. A typical shovel test for the site revealed a dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) silty clay plowzone from 0 to 16 cm in depth covering a sterile dark yellowish brown (10YR4/4) oxidized silty clay subsoil. Artifacts noted from the three positive shovel tests (STs 2, 3, and 8) include brick

fragments, mortar, metal, glass, and a single piece of whiteware.

Early whiteware, common whiteware, ironstone, ivory- and dark ivory-tinted whiteware, and stoneware were noted in West Oaks No. 7 collections (Table 6-22, Figure 6-29). Common whiteware was decorated with flow-blue and decalcomania designs, indicating manufacture in the late nineteenth and early

Table 6-19. Artifacts from the West Oaks No. 4 Site (16IV72).

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #4	Shovel Test #6	Shovel Test #7	Shovel Test #14	Shovel Test #15	Shovel Test #16	TOTAL
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>								
Semi-Refined Earthenware								
Yellowware								
Annular (banded)								
blue	1							1
brown	1							1
white	1					1		2
polychrome	1							1
Molded								
undecorated	4							4
Molded and Rockingham								
Rockingham	3							3
Undecorated								
Undecorated	7							7
Refined Earthenware								
Pearlware								
Transfer-printed								
blue	3							3
Molded								
undecorated	1							1
Undecorated								
Undecorated	4							4
Annular (Banded)								
monochrome	2							2
polychrome	4							4
Late Pearlware								
Sponge								
blue	1							1
Undecorated								
undecorated	3							3
Early Whiteware								
Annular (Banded)								
monochrome	1							1
polychrome	5							5
Edged (var. unscaloped)								
blue	1							1
Hand Painted and Stamped								
green	1							1
polychrome								
Hand Painted								
monochrome	1							1
Stamped								
monochrome	1							1
Whiteware								
Transfer-printed								
flow blue	2							2
blue	3							3
green	1							1
red	1							1
Hand-painted								
monochrome	2							2
polychrome	7							7
Annular (banded)								
monochrome	8							8
polychrome	5							5
Annular (unidentified design)								
polychrome	1							1
Edged (embossed)								
blue	2							2
Edged (scaloped)								
blue	2	1						3
Edged (scaloped var. symmetrical)								
blue	1							1
Edged (unscaloped)								
blue	4	1						5
Decalcomania								
monochrome	2							2
polychrome	1							1
Sponge								
red and blue	1							1
Slipped								
yellow	1							1
Undecorated								
undecorated	43		1	1		3		48
Ironstone								
Undecorated								
Undecorated	15							15
Unidentified Refined Earthenware								
Edged (unidentified rim type)								
red	1							1
Molded								
undecorated	1							1
Undecorated								
Undecorated	1							1

(continued)

twentieth centuries, respectively. Glass found at the site included machine-made vessel glass, depression glass, and clear purple and clear yellow glass unidentified as to manufacturing technique. One Owens machine-made clear yellow vessel fragment bore a manufacturer's mark for the Fairmont Glass com-

pany dating from 1945 to 1960 (Toulouse 1972:201). Clear yellow glass was generally out of production by 1930, so this vessel may represent a transitional type. Overall, the ceramic and glass artifact assemblage suggests an occupation dating between 1870 and 1950.

Table 6-19. Concluded.

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #4	Shovel Test #6	Shovel Test #7	Shovel Test #14	Shovel Test #15	Shovel Test #16	TOTAL
<b>Stoneware</b>								
Albany (Int.), Unglazed (ext.)								
Undecorated								
undecorated	1							1
Albany (Int.), Albany (ext.)								
Undecorated								
undecorated	2							2
Albany (Int.), Bristol (ext.)								
Undecorated								
undecorated	1							1
Albany (Int.), Salt (ext.)								
Undecorated								
undecorated	12							12
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)								
Undecorated								
undecorated	3							3
Slip (Int.), slip (ext.)								
Undecorated								
undecorated	1							1
Slip (Int.), salt (ext.)								
Undecorated								
undecorated	3							3
Slip (Int.), unglazed (ext.)								
Undecorated								
undecorated	1							1
Unglazed (Int.), Salt (ext.)								
Undecorated								
undecorated	2							2
Salt (Int.), Salt (Ext.)								
Undecorated								
undecorated	1							1
Unglazed (Int.), Unglazed (ext.)								
Undecorated								
undecorated								
tobacco pipe	1							1
<b>Porcelain</b>								
Hard Paste								
Undecorated								
undecorated	10							10
Button								
Undecorated								
undecorated	2							2
Semi-Porcelain								
Insulator	1							1
<b>GLASS</b>								
Free Blown								
Glass Pontil								
Unidentified lipping technique								
olive amber	1							1
Unidentified Pontilling technique								
Unidentified lipping technique								
clear	1							1
Molded								
Unidentified Mold Type								
Lipping Tooled								
brown	1							1
clear blue	2							2
clear purple	3							3
Machine Made								
Unidentified Mold Type								
Unidentified machine type								
light blue	1							1
Pressed								
light blue	1							1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique								
bright green	1							1
brown		1						1
clear		1						1
clear blue	1							1
clear purple	5							5
milk (white)	3							3
olive	2	1			1			4
olive amber	3							3
Window Glass								
clear green	1							1
<b>FAUNA</b>								
Vertebrate								
Non-human								
Unidentified								
unidentified	1			1				2
<b>METAL</b>								
Iron								
bolt								
unidentified						1		1
nail								
type 1-10						1		1
type 6-10	1							1
Spike								
type 3-10								
type 6-10	1							1
<b>STONE</b>								
Construction Material								
Slate								
Unidentified	1							1
<b>BRICK</b>								
fire								
glazed	1							1
<b>SYNTHETIC PRODUCT</b>								
Synthetic								
Rubber								
Button	1							1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>239</b>

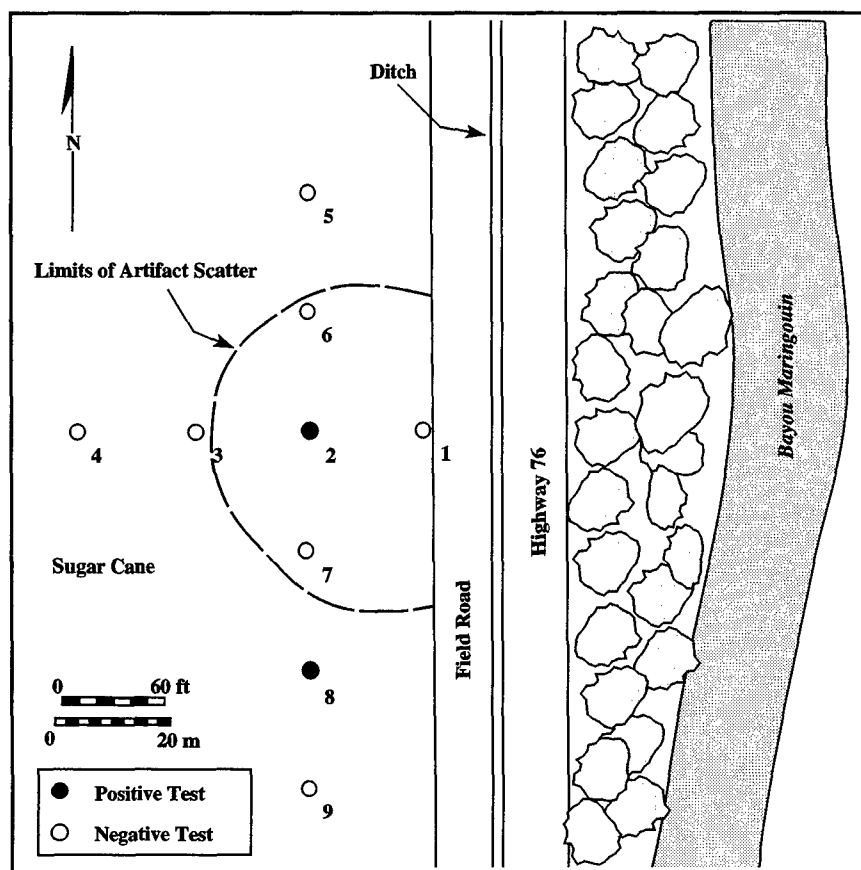


Figure 6-26. Sketch map of the West Oaks No. 5 site (16IV73).

### Comments and Recommendations

West Oaks No. 7 is a small scatter of historic artifacts dating largely to the final decades of the nineteenth century and the early half of the twentieth century. No intact features or deposits were noted at the site, and it is not believed that further testing is necessary here.

### 16IV76 West Oaks No. 8

#### Location and Description

The West Oaks No. 8 site lies at the intersection of LA Highway 76 and an unnamed gravel field road, on the crest of the western natural levee of Bayou Maringouin (Figure 6-30). Like the other West Oaks sites, 16IV76 lies on Commerce soils and is a small (40 by 60 m) scatter of historic artifacts probably representing a tenant occupation. West Oaks No. 8 was delineated with two crossing transects of

shovel tests dug at 20 m intervals. A typical shovel test produced a profile consisting of a 15 cm-thick dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) silty clay plowzone covering a sterile brown (10YR3/3) oxidized silty clay subsoil. The plowzone in STs 2 and 3 yielded brick fragments, metal and/or glass, but the other tests were culturally sterile.

Ceramics collected from the site included early whiteware, common whiteware, ironstone, and stoneware (Table 6-23). The presence of significant numbers of early whiteware sherds probably indicates an ante-bellum date, although the site appears to post-date pearlware. Molded vessel glass and clear purple glass of unidentified manufacturing technique were collected as well. No machine-made glass was noted from the collections, however, indicating an end date prior to 1905. Therefore, the assemblage suggests an occupation dating from the middle and late decades of the nineteenth century.

Table 6-20. Artifacts from the West Oaks No. 5 Site (16IV73).

	Surface Collection
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>	
Baytown Plain	
<i>var. unspecified</i>	5
Plaquemine Brushed	
<i>var. Plaquemine</i>	1
Unidentified Incised on Baytown Plain,	
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>	
Refined Earthenware	
Late Pearlware	
Undecorated	
undecorated	3
Early Whiteware	
Whiteware	
Transfer-printed	
black	1
Hand-painted	
monochrome	1
Annular (banded)	
monochrome	2
Edged (scalloped)	
blue	1
Stamped	
monochrome	1
Undecorated	
undecorated	17
Ironstone	
Annular ( <i>var. Banded</i> )	
polychrome	1
Undecorated	
Undecorated	2
Unidentified Refined Earthenware	
Molded	
undecorated	1
Undecorated	
Undecorated	18
Stoneware	
Albany ( <i>Int.</i> ), Salt ( <i>ext.</i> )	
Undecorated	
undecorated	2
Porcelain	
Hard Paste	
Molded	
undecorated	1
Button	
Undecorated	1
Parian	
Undecorated	1
Semi-Porcelain	
Doll	1
<b>GLASS</b>	
Unidentified Manufacturing technique	
clear blue	1
clear purple	2
light blue	2
olive	1
yellow vaseline	1
<b>METAL</b>	
Lead	
roofing nail cap	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>69</b>

### Comments and Recommendations

West Oaks No. 8 is a small mid-nineteenth to early-twentieth century scatter, probably representing a tenant occupation. No intact features or deposits were found here, and further testing is not recommended.

### 16IV77 West Oaks No. 9

#### Location and Description

Approximately 130 m south of 16IV78 lies West Oaks No. 9, a small (40 by 50 m) scatter of historic artifacts on the Commerce soils of the western natural levee of Bayou Maringouin (Figure 6-31). This site was delineated with two crossing transects of shovel tests dug at 20 m intervals. Four shovel tests (STs 2, 3, 4, and 7) produced historic materials, including brick (whole and fragmentary), glass, historic ceramics, corroded iron, and charcoal. Shovel Test 3 produced brick and brick fragments from the top of the test to limits of excavation, 56 cm below surface. Stratigraphy in this test was otherwise typical of the site; a dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) silty clay plowzone from 0 to 15 cm below surface covering a brown to dark brown (10YR4/3) silty clay subsoil. It is not certain if ST 3 is a feature, or if it is simply an area of disturbed soil. It certainly bears none of the hallmarks of being a feature, such as charcoal or organic staining.

Ceramics collected from the site included common whiteware, ivory- and dark-ivory whiteware, ironstone, and stoneware (Table 6-24). Several common whiteware and ivory-tinted whiteware sherds were transfer-printed with designs suggestive of dates from the late end of the whiteware sequence. One dark ivory-tinted whiteware sherd had a Homer Laughlin manufacturer's mark dated between 1900 and 1960 (Gates and Ormerod 1982:236). Glass from the site included molded and machine-made vessel examples, as well as clear purple glass unidentified as to manufacturing technique. Glass manufacturer's marks include an Illinois Glass Co. mark dating between 1916 and 1929 (Toulouse 1972:264); a Owens Illinois mark from between 1929 and 1954 (Toulouse 1972:403); a mark from the Carr-Atlas Glass Co. dating between 1920 and 1963 (Toulouse 1972:135); and a Hazel-Atlas Glass Co. mark made between 1920 and 1964 (Toulouse 1972:239). A Louisiana public welfare tax token was also collected, dating between 1938 and 1940 (Crawford et al. 1982:334).

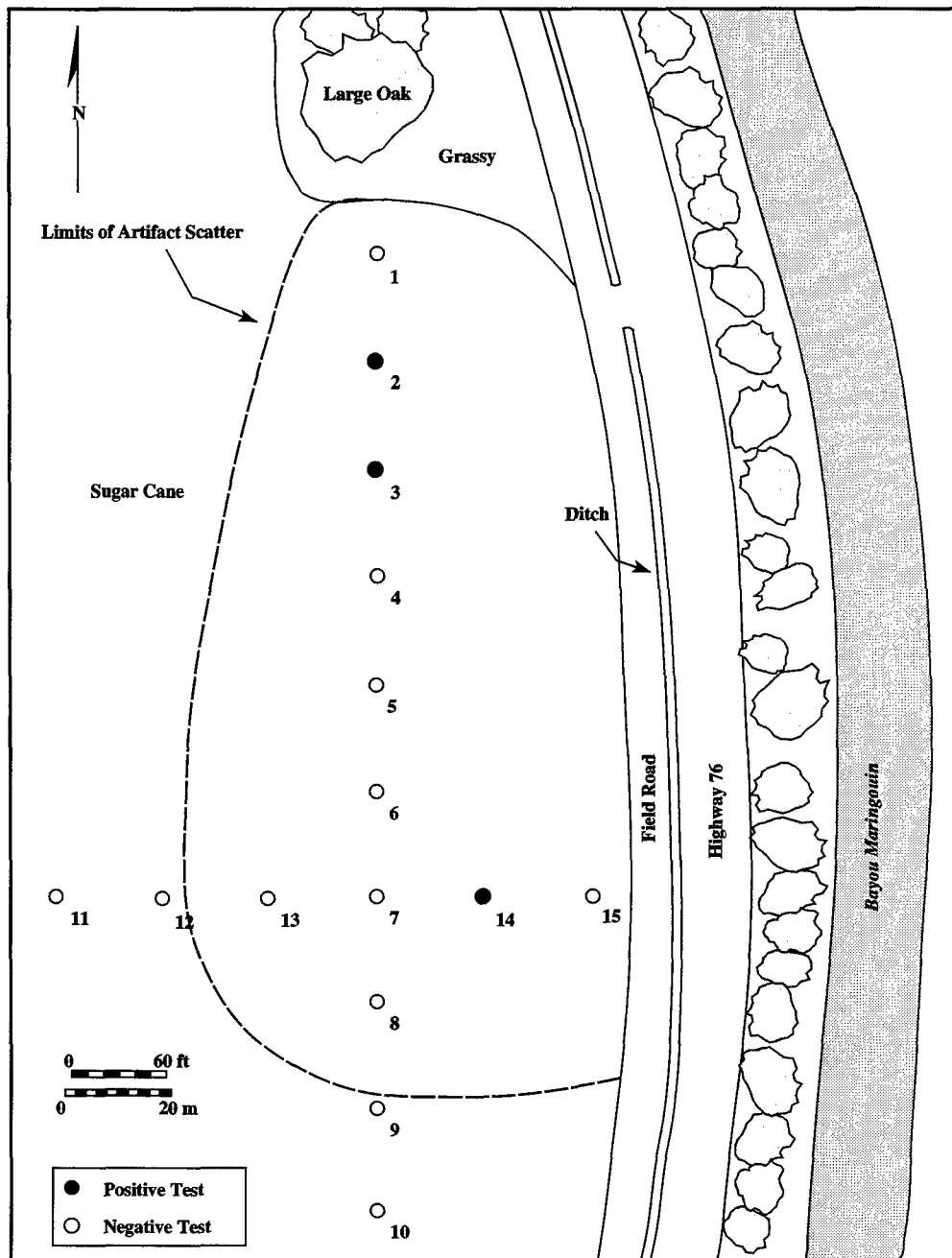


Figure 6-27. Sketch map of the West Oaks No. 6 site (16IV74).

#### Comments and Recommendations

The West Oaks No. 9 site is a small scatter of late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century artifacts, probably the remains of a small tenant occupation. It is presently unclear whether or not intact features remain at the site. Further testing should be undertaken to clarify the nature of the deposits noted in ST 3 before any determination of significance can be made for this site.

#### 16IV78 West Oaks No. 10

##### Location and Description

This site lies approximately 140 m south/southeast of 16IV77, on the same Commerce soils and natural levee deposits (Figure 6-32). West Oaks No. 10 is a light scatter of historic artifacts measuring 60 by 60 m, probably the remains of a tenant occupation. The site was delineated with two crossing transects of

**Table 6-21. Artifacts from the West Oaks No. 6 Site (16IV74).**

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #14	TOTAL
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>			
Semi-Refined Earthenware			
Yellowware			
Hand Painted			
blue	1		1
Unidentified Semi-Refined Earthenware			
Undecorated	1		1
Refined Earthenware			
Whiteware			
Transfer-printed			
blue	3		3
Molded			
undecorated	1		1
Undecorated			
undecorated	6		6
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware			
Molded			
undecorated	3		3
Undecorated			
undecorated	2		2
Unidentified Refined Earthenware			
Molded			
Undecorated	1		1
Undecorated			
Undecorated	1		1
Stoneware			
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)			
Undecorated	1		1
Porcelain			
Hard Paste			
Decalcomania			
monochrome	1		1
Button			
undecorated	2		2
Semi-Porcelain			
Insulator	1		1
Toilet	2		2
<b>GLASS</b>			
Molded			
Cup-Bottom Mold			
Lipping tooled			
clear			
Unidentified lipping technique	1		1
cobalt blue			
Unidentified Mold Type			
Lipping Tooled	1		1
clear blue			
clear purple	1		1
Machine Made			
Unidentified Mold Type			
Owens machine made			
brown	1		1
clear	6		6
cobalt blue	1		1
modern green	1		1
Unidentified machine type			
clear	2		2
milk (light blue)	1		1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique			
clear		1	1
clear blue	1		1
cobalt blue	1		1
milk (light blue)	2		2
milk (green)	1		1
milk (white)	5		5
Glass			
marble			
clear, blue	1		1
clear, blue, milk	1		1
bead			
red	1		1
<b>FLORA</b>			
Wood			
Unidentified			
wheel or net float	1		1
<b>SYNTHETIC PRODUCT</b>			
Synthetic			
Plastic			
Button	1		1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>57</b>

shovel tests excavated at 20 m intervals. Three shovel tests (STs 3, 6, and 7) produced brick, with glass and/or historic ceramics. No cultural stratigraphy was noted below plowzone. All shovel test profiles show a 16 cm-deep dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) silty clay plowzone covering a brown to dark brown (10YR4/3) silty clay subsoil. The exception was ST 2, where the first 25 cm were comprised largely of rotting sugarcane.

The historic assemblage from the West Oaks No. 10 site is very similar to others from the West Oaks plantation property, although there are no suggestions of any mid-nineteenth century components. Common whiteware, ironstone, ivory- and dark ivory-tinted whitewares, and stoneware are present (Table 6-25). A sherd of ivory-tinted whiteware bore a maker's mark from the Crown Potteries Co. of Evansville, Indiana, dating between 1902 and 1962 (Kovel and Kovel 1986:87). Decalcomania and repoussé decorated sherds date from the early half of the twentieth century. Machine-made vessel glass, as well as olive and clear purple glass unidentified as to manufacturing technique, were identified in the collection. One glass bottle fragment was marked with a Hazel-Atlas Glass Co. label dating from 1920 to 1964 (Toulouse 1972:239). Overall, the artifact assemblage suggests an occupation between 1870 and 1940.

### *Comments and Recommendations*

The West Oaks No. 10 site is a small historic occupation, presumably representing a tenant house dating from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. No intact features or deposits were noted, and no further work is recommended.

### *16IV79 West Oaks No. 11*

### *Location and Description*

West Oaks No. 11 is an historic site on the west side of Bayou Maringouin, occupying the Commerce soils of the natural levee crest. The site measures 60 by 90 m, slightly larger than most of the West Oaks tenant scatters (Figure 6-33). Delineation of site boundaries was accomplished with two cross-ing transects of shovel tests spaced at 20 m intervals. Several positive tests were excavated, including STs 3 through 7 and 11, yielding brick fragments, charcoal, metal, glass, and a ceramic sherd. Shovel Test 3 yielded a portion of an apparent feature, a very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2), organic silty clay with heavy concentrations of charcoal and some



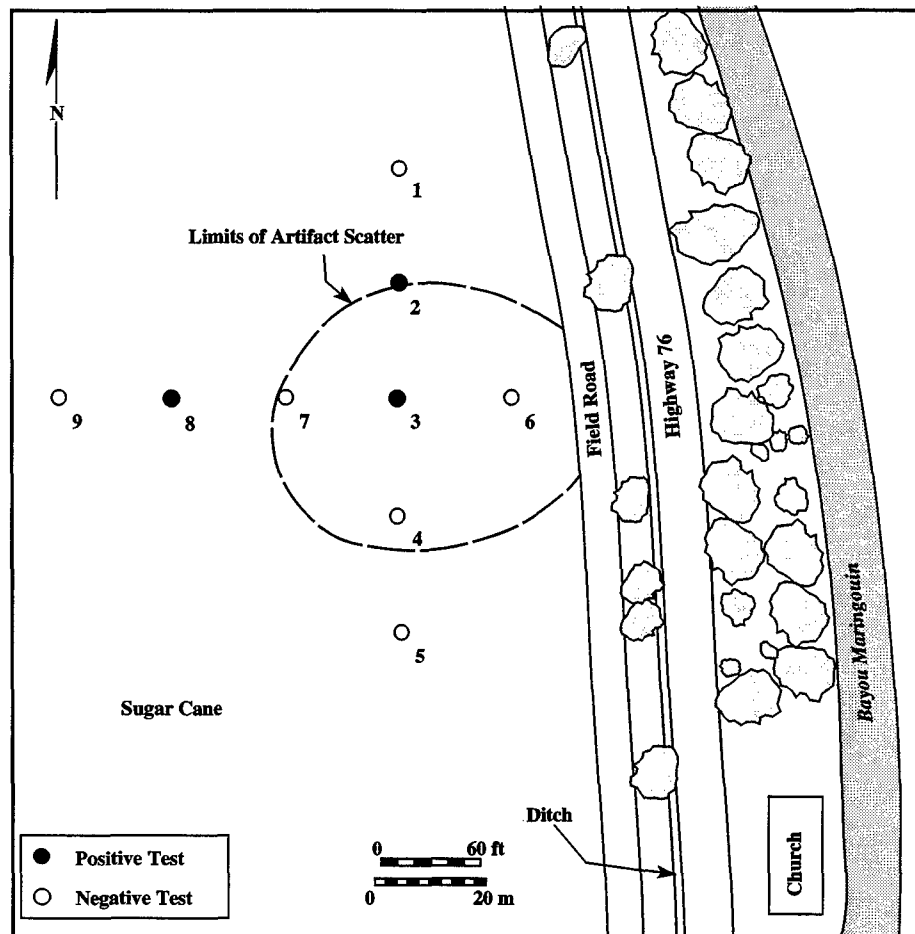


Figure 6-28. Sketch map of the West Oaks No. 7 site (16IV75).

brick. Shovel test profiles were otherwise composed of a 14 cm-thick sterile dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) silty clay plowzone covering a brown to dark brown (10YR4/3) silty clay subsoil.

Historic ceramics collected from West Oaks No. 11 are typical of late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century sites in the study area (Table 6-26). Stoneware, common whiteware, ironstone, and ivory-tinted whitewares were collected. Most sherds were plain, with the exception of a transfer-printed sherd of ironstone and a molded ivory-tinted whiteware sherd, both generally datable to the turn-of-the-twentieth-century. A maker's mark on a sherd of common whiteware was from the Homer Laughlin China Co., with a date of either 1942 or 1952 (Gates and Ormerod 1982:140). Glass from the site included molded and machine-made examples, as well as clear purple glass unidentified as to manufacture. The site, therefore, was probably occupied between 1890 and 1950.

### Comments and Recommendations

West Oaks No. 11 is an historic scatter that probably represents a tenant occupation from the first half of the twentieth century. The discovery of a feature suggests that some research potential remains to be realized here. Further testing is recommended to assess the archaeological significance and potential eligibility of the site.

### 16IV80 Stiletto Heel

#### Location and Description

Located just 110 m south/southeast of West Oaks No. 11, Stiletto Heel is a scatter of prehistoric and historic artifacts occupying the natural levee (Commerce association) soils that make up the western side of Bayou Maringouin (Figure 6-34). The site was delineated with two crossing transects of shovel

**Table 6-22. Artifacts from the West Oaks No. 7 Site (16IV75).**

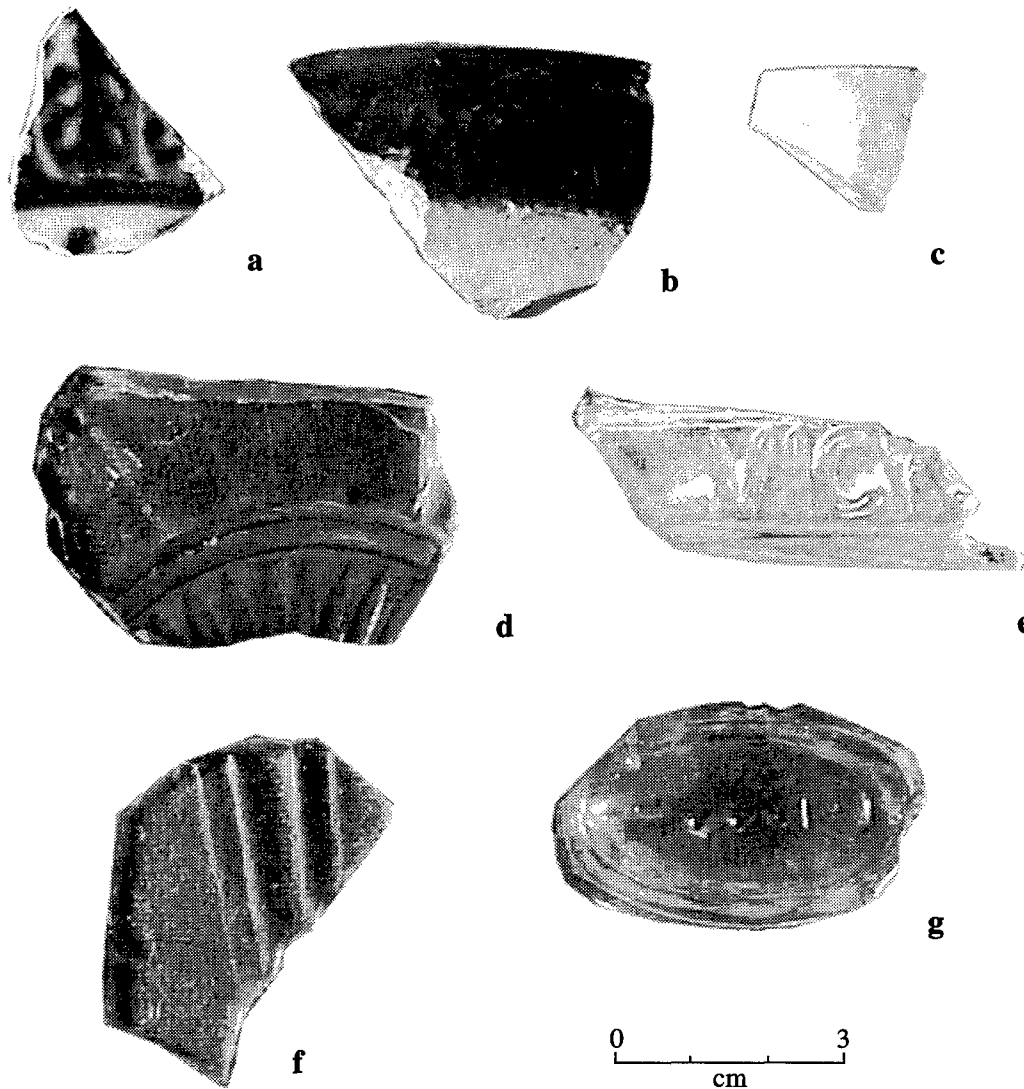
	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #2	Shovel Test #3	Shovel Test #8	TOTAL
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>					
Semi-Refined Earthenware					
Yellowware					
Glazed					
green	1				1
Refined Earthenware					
Early Whiteware					
undecorated	1				1
Whiteware					
Transfer-printed					
flow blue	3				3
Decalcomania	1				1
fugitive					
Molded	3				3
undecorated					
Stencil	1				1
blue					
Undecorated	9				9
undecorated					
Ironstone					
Undecorated	1				1
Undecorated					
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware					
Undecorated	7	1			8
undecorated					
Dark Ivory-Tinted Whiteware					
Molded	3				3
undecorated					
Unidentified Refined Earthenware					
Undecorated	2				2
Undecorated					
Stoneware					
Albany (Int.), Unglazed (ext.)					
Undecorated	1				1
Undecorated					
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)					
Blue on white and Molded	1				1
undecorated					
Undecorated	1				1
undecorated					
Porcelain					
Hard Paste					
Decalcomania					
monochrome	1				1
Decalcomania and Molded					
monochrome	1				1
undecorated	4				4
undecorated					
Button	1				1
Undecorated					
Parian	2				2
Figurine					
Semi-Porcelain					
Decalcomania					
monochrome	1				1
black and fugitive	1				1
Molded					
undecorated	1				1
<b>GLASS</b>					
Machine Made					
Unidentified Mold Type					
Owens machine made					
clear yellow	1				1
Unidentified machine type					
clear green	1				1
Pressed					
Unidentified Manufacturing technique					
clear purple	1				1
clear	4		1	2	7
clear purple	10				10
clear yellow	2				2
clear pink	1				1
cobalt blue	2				2
milk (white)	16				16
Glass					
marble					
orange, blue, white, clear	1				1
milk (white), blue, clear	1				1
<b>METAL</b>					
Lead					
roofing nail cap	1				1
Ferrous					
Unidentified					
button	1				1
<b>SYNTHETIC PRODUCT</b>					
Synthetic					
Plastic					
Unidentified	1				1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>94</b>

tests spaced at 20 m intervals. Shovel test profiles revealed a dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) silty clay plowzone (0 to 15 cm below surface) covering an oxidized brown to dark brown (10YR4/3) silty clay subsoil. All tests were culturally sterile except for ST 2, which yielded a small number of brick fragments from the plowzone.

A single sherd of Baytown Plain, *var. Addis*, probably dating to the Mississippi period (A.D. 1200 to 1650), was recovered from Stiletto Heel (Table 6-27 and Figure 6-35), along with two sherds of Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*. Historic artifacts include sherds of early and common whitewares, ironstone, ivory- and dark ivory-tinted whiteware, and stoneware. Decorative techniques include decalcomania, transfer printed (revival), and slipped decorations, dating to the turn-of-the-twentieth century and later. These decorative techniques and a lack of other contemporary sherds may mean that the single piece of early whiteware is an heirloom piece. Glass from the site included shards of molded and machine-made container glass, in addition to clear purple glass unidentified as to manufacturing technique. Several glass manufacturer's marks were noted, including one from the Laurens Glass Works of Laurens, South Carolina dating from 1911-1970+ (Toulouse 1972:325-326); one Owens Illinois Glass Co. mark postdating 1940; two Owens Illinois Glass Co. marks dating after 1954 (Toulouse 1972:403); a Hazel-Atlas Glass Co. mark dating between 1920 and 1964 (Toulouse 1972:239); one Bristol-Meyers Co. MUM deodorant cream container, of milk glass, sold in the 1940's (Sears 1943-44:231); and one Platonite mark for the Hazel-Atlas Glass Co. from the 1940's and 1950's. A single 1920 wheat penny (Denver mint) was also found, as well as a molded-type composition World War II Navy enlisted (pea coat) button (Johnson 1948:80). These artifacts suggest a continuous occupation between 1890 and 1970. Several items made of plastic, primarily containers, were noted but not collected (the site takes its name from one of these items), and may postdate the collection.

### Comments and Recommendations

Stiletto Heel is a scatter of recent, early- to mid-twentieth century, and prehistoric artifacts which does not appear to possess intact deposits. No further testing is recommended for this site.



**Figure 6-29. Historic material recovered from the West Oaks No. 7 site (16IV75). a) Flow blue decorated whiteware; b) Blue-on-white Bristol-slipped stoneware; c) Molded dark ivory-tinted whiteware; d) Clear yellow glass plate or bowl; e) Clear glass vessel, probably Vicks Cough Syrup; f) Depression glass; g) Clear yellow Owens machine-made bottle fragment, Fairmont Glass Co.**

### **16IV81 Lackluster**

#### ***Location and Description***

Lackluster is a small scatter of historic and prehistoric materials found 150 m south/south-east of the Stiletto Heel site (16IV80), occupying the same Commerce soils of the western Bayou Maringouin levee as the West Oaks sites to the north (Figure 6-36). It is not entirely clear if the

entire site was collected and delineated, as we were unable to access the field immediately to the south. Lackluster was delineated with two crossing transects of shovel tests spaced at twenty meter intervals. No positive tests were excavated, and no cultural stratigraphy was encountered. A typical shovel test yielded a dark brown (10YR3/3) silty clay plowzone descending to a depth of 16 cm, over a brown to dark brown (10YR4/3) silty clay subsoil.

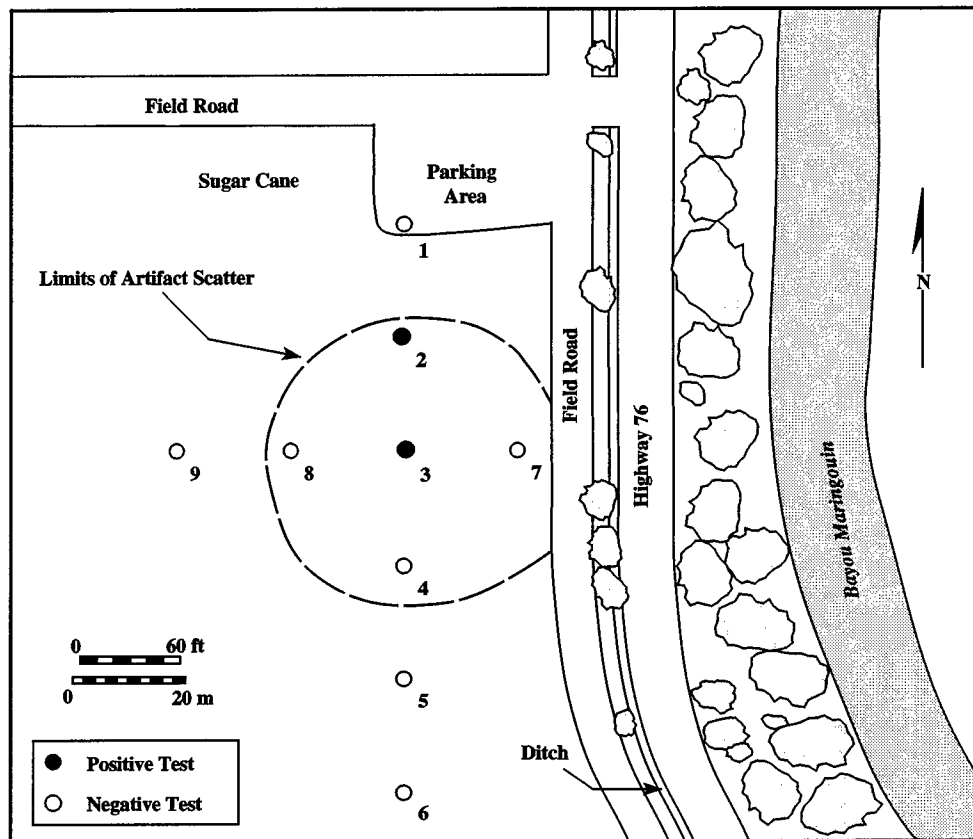


Figure 6-30. Sketch map of the West Oaks No. 8 site (16IV76).

Lackluster surface collections produced a single sherd of Baytown Plain, *var. Addis*, probably dating to the Mississippi period (A.D. 1200 to 1650). The historic collection was limited, but fairly diagnostic (Table 6-28). Historic ceramics included common whiteware, ironstone, ivory-tinted whiteware, and stoneware. Most of the ceramics were plain, as was usually the case in the study area, but stamped, transfer-printed, molded, and annular (banded) sherds were collected. These sherds probably date to the middle and late nineteenth century. Molded vessel glass and clear purple glass of unidentified manufacturing technique were also noted. The lack of machine glass suggests a pre-1905 date. Thus, the historic artifacts appear to represent a site occupied between 1850 and 1900.

#### Comments and Recommendations

The Lackluster site is a primarily historic (mid-to-late-nineteenth century) scatter that yielded a single prehistoric sherd. It is not entirely clear if the site dimensions have been fully realized and delineated.

Therefore, a determination of significance cannot be made at this time.

#### 16IV82 Sunnyside No. 1

##### Location and Description

Sunnyside No. 1 is a small historic site known only through subsurface testing. This site is located on the east side of Bayou Grosse Tete, 1350 m south/southeast of the bridge connecting LA Highways 411 and 77 at Maringouin (Figure 6-37). The site lies at the south edge of what is apparently an old slough that was at one time connected to Bayou Grosse Tete. At the time of discovery, the cultivated field in which this site lies had just been harvested and was covered in sugarcane chaff; no surface exposure was available.

Three positive tests (STs 2, 7, and 8) were excavated out of two crossing transects of shovel tests spaced at 20 m intervals. Brick fragments were found in the plowzone of all three, but ST 8 produced a

Table 6-23. Artifacts from the West Oaks No. 8 Site (16IV76).

	Surface Collection		Surface Collection
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>		<b>GLASS</b>	
Semi-Refined Earthenware		Molded	
Yellowware		Cup-Bottom Mold	
Annular (banded)		Unidentified lipping technique	
brown	1	clear purple	1
Lead Glazed		Unidentified Mold Type	
brown	1	Lipping Tooled	
Undecorated		clear blue	3
Undecorated	3	clear purple	3
Refined Earthenware		Unidentified lipping technique	
Early Whiteware		clear blue	1
Transfer-printed		clear purple	3
blue	2	Pressed	
Unidentified		clear purple	1
unidentified	6	milk (white)	1
Whiteware		Unidentified Manufacturing technique	
Transfer-printed		Cup-Bottom Mold	
blue	3	Unidentified Lipping Technique	
brown	3	clear purple	1
red	2	Unidentified Manufacturing technique	
Annular (banded)		clear	3
monochrome	2	clear blue	2
Molded		clear purple	13
undecorated	1	light blue	1
Undecorated		milk (white)	3
undecorated	40	olive amber	2
Ironstone		vaseline	1
Undecorated		<b>METAL</b>	
Undecorated	7	Iron	
Stoneware		utensil	
Slip (Int.), Bristol and Slip (ext.)		knife	1
Undecorated		<b>STONE</b>	
undecorated	2	Construction Material	
Slip (Int.), salt (ext.)		Slate	
Undecorated		Unidentified	1
undecorated	6	<b>BRICK</b>	
Unglazed (Int.), Slip (ext.)		handmade	
Undecorated		unglazed	1
undecorated	1	<b>TOTAL</b>	136
Porcelain			
Bisque			
Doll	1		
Hard Paste			
Molded			
undecorated	1		
Undecorated			
undecorated	9		
Doll			
undecorated	1		
Semi-Porcelain			
Undecorated			
undecorated	2		

dense deposit of trash, including a leaf spring, historic ceramic sherds, a complete mayonnaise jar, a piece of oyster shell, asphalt shingle fragments, a piece of old leather, bits of decaying cloth, part of an old green plastic garden hose, bits of lumber, and several large pieces of brick. At the base of the plowzone (17 cm), the artifacts, mostly brick, were

so dense that the shovel test had to be terminated. Natural stratigraphy was characterized at the site by a 15 cm-deep dark gray (10YR4/1) silty clay plowzone over a dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) silty clay subsoil.

The asphalt shingle, leather, cloth, plastic, and brick were discarded in the field, but several pieces

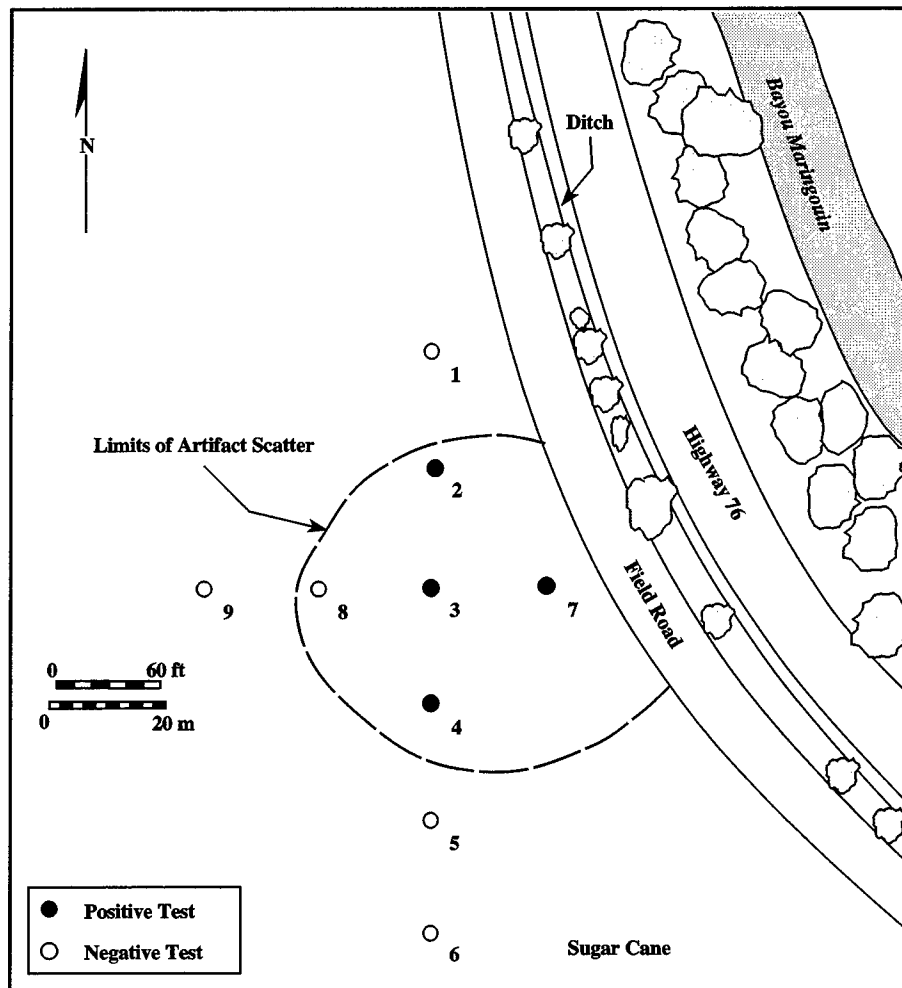


Figure 6-31. Sketch map of the West Oaks No. 9 site (16IV77).

of ivory-tinted whiteware, as well as an Owens machine-made glass container (probably a mayonnaise jar) indicate a twentieth century date (Table 6-29). The jar bore the mark of the Knox Bottle Co. of Mississippi, and dates from 1932 to post-1953 (Toulouse 1972:271). The deposits probably date from the middle of the twentieth century.

#### ***Comments and Recommendations***

Although it appears that Sunnyside No. 1 has intact, middle-twentieth-century deposits, as represented by the finds in ST 8, it is not believed that this is a significant site. The site was wooded until the 1970's, according to the current tenant, and the deposits noted in the shovel tests are likely to be the results of trash disposal. No further testing is recommended here.

#### ***16IV83 Sunnyside No. 2***

##### ***Location and Description***

The Sunnyside No. 2 site was found approximately 230 m to the south of the first Sunnyside site, sharing the same natural levee feature. This site is a very large (240 by 110 m, oriented north to south) historic and prehistoric scatter on the Commerce soils forming the eastern natural levee of Bayou Grosse Tete (Figure 6-38). Visibility was much higher here than at Sunnyside No. 1, and a large surface collection was taken. Historic artifacts were found in relatively high density throughout the site, while prehistoric sherds were few in number and found primarily at the west end of the site.

Table 6-24. Artifacts from the West Oaks No. 9 Site (16IV77).

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #3	Shovel Test #4	Shovel Test #7	TOTAL
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>					
Semi-Refined Earthenware					
Refined Earthenware					
Whiteware					
Transfer-printed					
blue	6				6
green	1				1
red	1				1
Decalcomania					
polychrome	1				1
Molded					
undecorated	4				4
Stencil and Hand-painted					
green and red, and black	1				1
Undecorated					
undecorated	13				13
Ironstone					
Undecorated					
Undecorated	3				3
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware					
Transfer-printed					
blue	10	1			11
Transfer-printed and Clobbered					
Brown and red	1				1
Molded					
undecorated	2				2
Undecorated					
undecorated	12				12
Dark Ivory-Tinted Whiteware					
Undecorated					
undecorated	3				3
American Majolica					
Undecorated					
Pink	1				1
Stoneware					
Albany (Int.), Salt (ext.)					
Undecorated					
undecorated	1				1
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)					
Undecorated					
undecorated	3				3
Slip (Int.), Bristol (ext.)					
Undecorated					
undecorated	2				2
Slip (Int.), salt (ext.)					
Undecorated					
undecorated	1				1
Porcelain					
Hard Paste					
Molded and Reticulated					
undecorated	1				1
Unglazed (Int.), Slip (Ext.)					
green	1				1
Undecorated					
undecorated	5				5

(continued)

Table 6-24. Concluded.

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #3	Shovel Test #4	Shovel Test #7	TOTAL
<b>GLASS</b>					
Molded					
Unidentified Mold Type					
Lipping Tooled					
clear purple	1				1
Machine Made					
Unidentified Mold Type					
Owens machine made					
clear	3				3
clear blue	1				1
clear green	1				1
Valve machine					
milk (white)	1				1
Unidentified machine type					
clear	3		1		4
clear green	1				1
clear purple	2				2
Pressed					
brown	1				1
clear	1				1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique					
blue vaseline	1				1
clear	5	1	3	1	10
clear blue	1				1
clear purple	8				8
cobalt blue	3	1			4
milk (white)	18				18
Unidentified Manufacturing technique					
Cup-Bottom Mold					
clear blue	1				1
Table Glass?					
clear blue	1				1
Glass					
marble					
clear blue, milk (white)	1				1
orange, red, milk (white)	1				1
purple, milk (white), clear	1				1
<b>FAUNA</b>					
Vertebrate					
Non-human					
unidentified	1				1
<b>METAL</b>					
Steel					
Utensil					
knife	1				1
Aluminum					
token	1				1
Stone					
Construction Material					
Asbestos					
Tile	2				2
<b>SYNTHETIC PRODUCT</b>					
Synthetic					
Plastic					
toothbrush	1				1
button	1				1
comb	1				1
unidentified	1				1
Unidentified					
unidentified	1				1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>147</b>



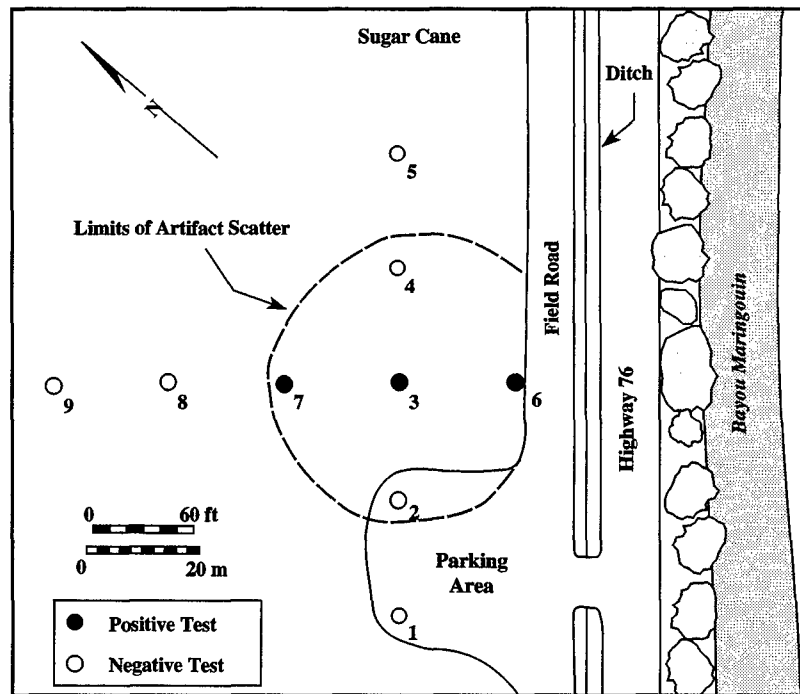


Figure 6-32. Sketch map of the West Oaks No. 10 site (16IV78).

The site boundaries at Sunnyside No. 2 were tested with two crossing transects of shovel tests spaced at 20 m intervals. Stratigraphy in these tests was largely composed of a brown to dark brown (10YR4/3) silt loam plowzone from 0 to 14 cm deep lying over a yellowish brown (10YR5/4) silty loam. Several shovel tests (STs 2 through 5, 8 through 11, and 15) produced historic artifacts; no prehistoric materials were found in subsurface testing. The artifacts recovered from shovel tests consist largely of brick fragments, with some pieces of historic ceramic, milk and clear glass, amorphous rusted metal, gravel, and some *Rangia cuneata* shell. All artifacts were noted from the plowzone, with the exception of a single small brick fragment in ST 8, found at 45 cm below surface. This does not appear to represent a feature or intact deposit.

The six sherds of Baytown Plain recovered from surface collections at the site were undiagnostic, except to say they have the "look" of post-Baytown period ceramics (Table 6-30). A core fragment and a single flake, both of tan cobble chert, were recovered as well. However, the most interesting artifact recovered from the site was a fragment of a sandstone disk, a roughly triangular piece measuring 11 cm by 6.6 cm, beveled on the outside edge and apparently perforated in the center (Figure 6-39). This disk was

1.9 cm thick with a full diameter of 21 cm. The interior perforation measured 6 cm in diameter. This is believed to be a prehistoric artifact, although this is far from certain. Another sandstone disk, decorated with "Southern Cult" motifs, was recovered on the west side of Grosse Tete, just southeast of this site at the Rosedale mound (16IV1; Weinstein 1984).

Historic artifacts from the Sunnyside No. 2 site consist largely of ceramics and glass. Common whiteware, ivory-tinted whiteware and stoneware probably date from the latest decades of the nineteenth century into the early half of the twentieth century. Sherds from Owens machine-made bottles postdate 1907, and two could be dated by their manufacturer's marks. One had an Owens Illinois Glass Co. Duraglas mark dating sometime after 1940 (Toulouse 1972:403), and another had an Illinois Glass Company mark dating between 1916 and 1929 (Toulouse 1972:264). Overall, the historic assemblage appears to date to the first half of the twentieth century.

#### Comments and Recommendations

The Sunnyside No. 2 site is a large twentieth century historic scatter with a minor Mississippi period

Table 6-25. Artifacts from the West Oaks No. 10 Site (16IV78).

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #6	Shovel Test #7	TOTAL
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>				
Semi-Refined Earthenware				
Yellowware				
Annular (banded) polychrome	1			1
Annular (Dendritic) polychrome				
Undecorated				
Undecorated	4			4
Refined Earthenware				
Whiteware				
Decalcomania				
green and fugitive	1			1
Repoussé				
Undecorated		1		1
Undecorated				
undecorated	21	1		22
Ironstone				
Decalcomania				
green and fugitive	1			1
Undecorated				
Undecorated	8	1		9
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware				
Undecorated				
undecorated	6			6
Dark Ivory-Tinted Whiteware				
Undecorated				
undecorated	4			4
Stoneware				
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)				
Blue on white				
undecorated	1			1
Annular (Banded)				
blue	1			1
Undecorated				
undecorated	1			1
Slip (Int.), salt (ext.)				
Undecorated				
undecorated	1			1
Porcelain				
Bisque				
Undecorated				
Unidentified	1			1
Hard Paste				
Molded				
undecorated	2			2
Undecorated				
undecorated	6			6
Semi-Porcelain				
Doll				
Painted				
blue	1			1
<b>GLASS</b>				
Machine Made				
Unidentified Mold Type				
Unidentified machine type				
clear	2			2
Unidentified Manufacturing technique				
clear	1			1
clear blue	3			3
clear purple	6			6
cobalt blue	1			1
milk (green)	1			1
milk (white)	7			7
olive	1			1
ruby or cranberry			1	1
<b>MINERAL</b>				
Graphite				
Battery rod	1			1
<b>SYNTHETIC PRODUCT</b>				
Synthetic				
Plastic				
Bead				
white and yellow swirl	1			1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>88</b>

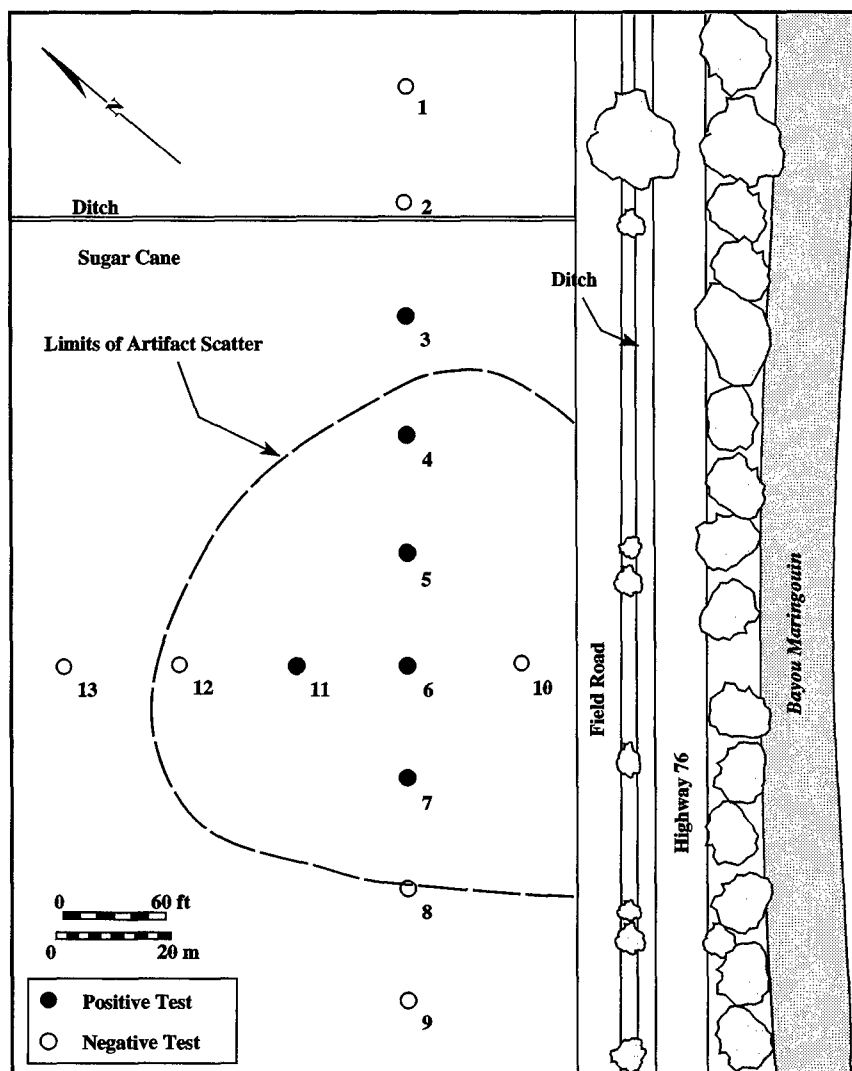


Figure 6-33. Sketch map of the West Oaks No. 11 site (16IV79).

(A.D. 1200 to 1650) component. Despite the recovery of a portion of a sandstone disk fragment, the site does not appear to harbor significant archaeological deposits, and the site is not recommended for further testing.

#### 16IV84 Sunnyside No. 3

##### *Location and Description*

The Sunnyside No. 3 site lies just east of Bayou Grosse Tete, approximately 180 m south of 16IV83 (Figure 6-40). Situated on the crest of the natural levee, 16IV84 occupies the Commerce silt loams common to almost all of the sites on this project. This historic and prehistoric scatter, which measures

80 by 110 m (oriented north to south), was delineated with two crossing transects of shovel tests placed at 20 m intervals. Shovel Tests 4, 9, 10, and 11 were positive for cultural material, producing brick fragments and charcoal from plowzone contexts. A single wire nail was excavated from ST 11, and was discarded in the field. Otherwise, shovel test profiles revealed a 15 cm-thick dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) sterile silt loam plowzone lying over a brown (10YR5/3) sterile silty loam.

Prehistoric artifacts from Sunnyside No. 3 include a single example of *var. Plaquemine*, a handful of *Addis* sherds, and a portion of a fluted ear plug manufactured on an *Addis* paste (Table 6-31 and Figure 6-41). A Mississippi period date (A.D. 1200 to 1650)

Table 6-26. Artifacts from the West Oaks No. 11 Site (16IV79).

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #4	Shovel Test #5	Shovel Test #6	TOTAL
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>					
Semi-Refined Earthenware					
Yellowware					
Molded and Painted					
green	1				1
Undecorated					
Undecorated	1				1
Refined Earthenware					
Whiteware					
Undecorated					
undecorated	11				11
Ironstone					
Transfer-printed					
blue green	1				1
Undecorated					
Undecorated	4				4
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware					
Molded					
undecorated	4				4
Undecorated					
undecorated	12				12
Stoneware					
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)					
Blue on white					
undecorated	2				2
Undecorated					
undecorated	2				2
Porcelain					
Hard Paste					
Undecorated					
undecorated	2				2
Button					
undecorated	2				2
<b>GLASS</b>					
Molded					
Unidentified lipping technique					
clear purple	1				1
Machine Made					
Unidentified Mold Type					
Unidentified machine type					
clear	1				1
clear green	2				2
cobalt blue	1				1
Pressed					
clear purple	1				1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique					
brown				1	1
clear		1	1		2
clear purple	3				3
cobalt blue	2				2
milk (green)	1				1
milk (white)	16				16
vaseline (yellow)	1				1
Glass					
marble					
milk (white), orange, brown	1				1
<b>FAUNA</b>					
Invertebrate					
Shell					
Button	3				3
Minera					
Graphite					
Battery rod	2				2
<b>SYNTHETIC PRODUCT</b>					
Synthetic					
Plastic					
Toy	1				1
record				1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>82</b>

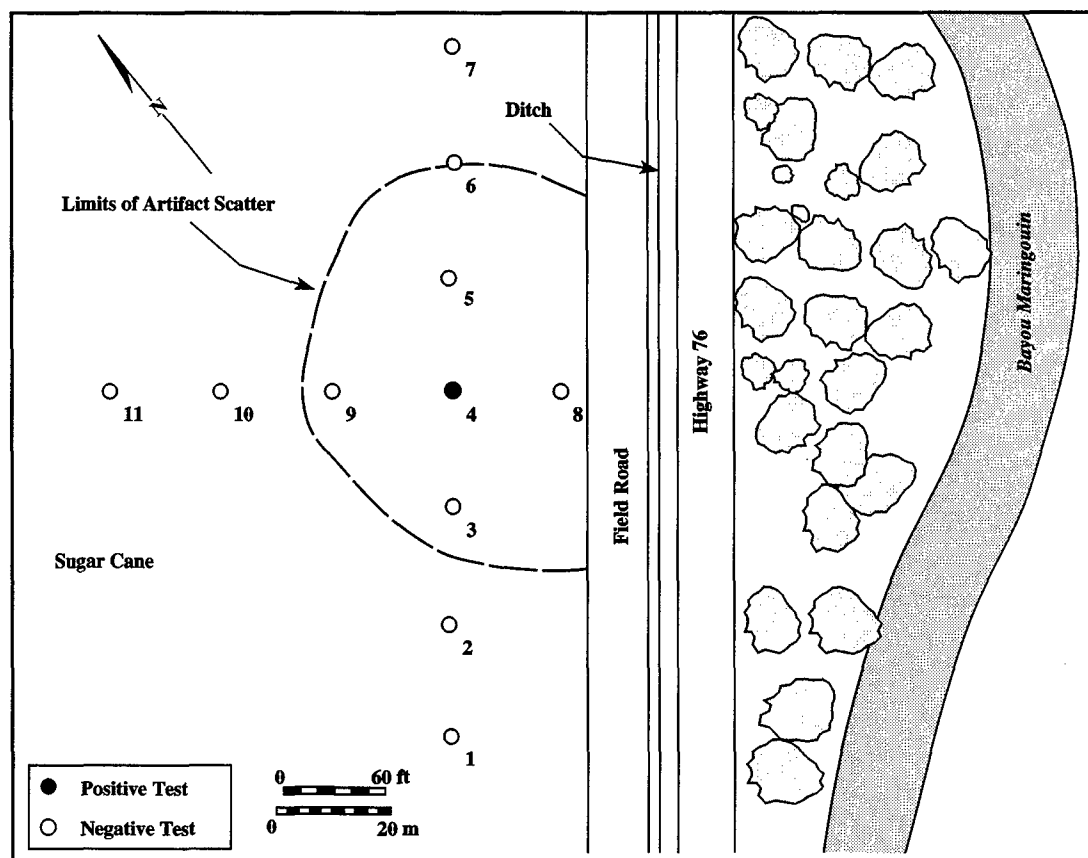


Figure 6-34. Sketch map of the Stiletto Heel site (16IV80).

can be inferred from these artifacts. Historic materials included ironstone, ivory-tinted whiteware, common whiteware, fiestaware and ironstone, suggesting an early twentieth-century date. Glass collected from the site include machine-made vessel fragments and clear purple glass unidentified as to manufacturing technique. A single piece of milk glass with a manufacturers mark of the Hazel Atlas Glass Co. was made between 1920 and 1964 (Toulouse 1972:239). Overall, the historic assemblage indicates a date between 1890 and 1965, and probably dates largely to the first half of the twentieth century.

#### *Comments and Recommendations*

Sunnyside No. 3 is a Plaquemine (A.D. 1200 - 1450) and twentieth century historic scatter, the latter probably representative of a small tenant occupation. No intact features or deposits were encountered, and the site is not recommended for further testing.

#### *16IV85 Sunnyside No. 4*

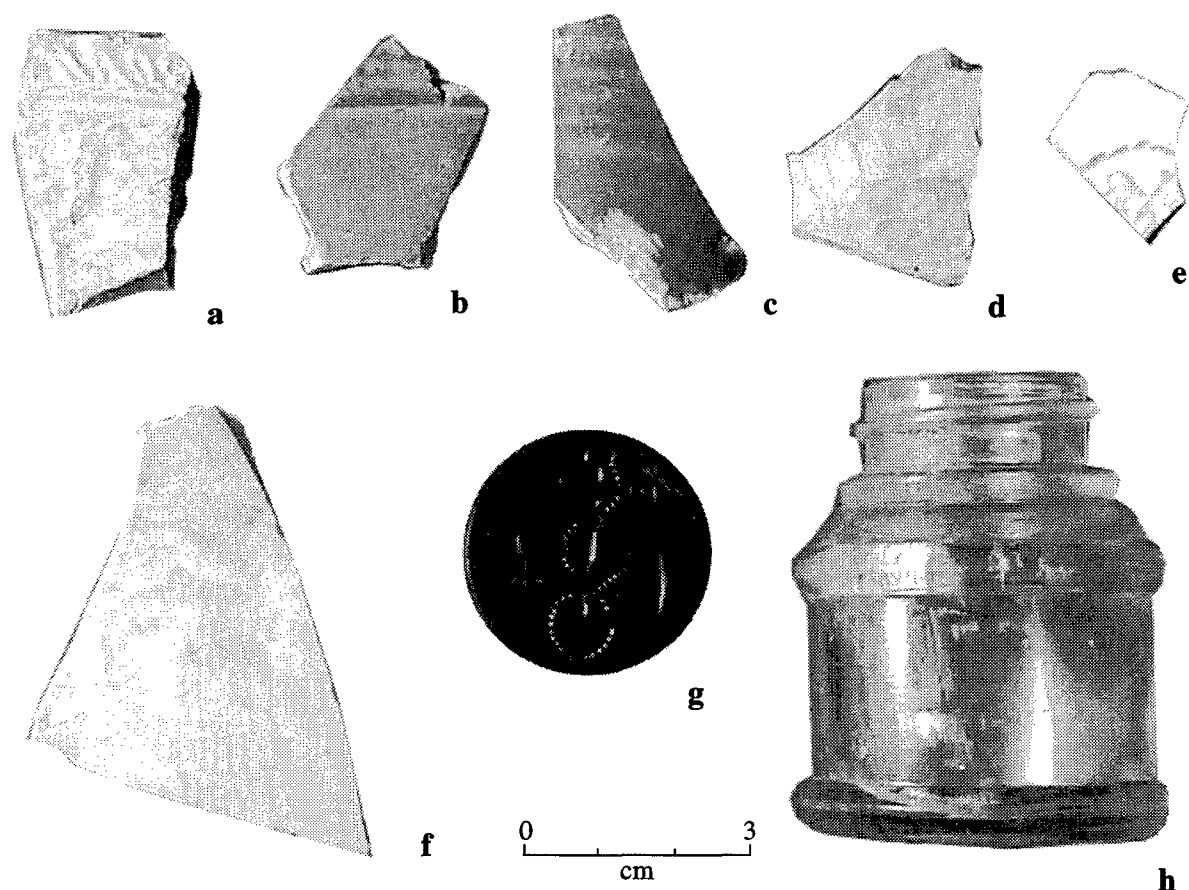
##### *Location and Description*

The fourth site found on Sunnyside Plantation property is a small (60 by 60 m) prehistoric and historic scatter occupying the Commerce soils of the eastern natural levee crest of Bayou Grosse Tete. Sunnyside No. 4, 200 m south/southeast of 16IV84, was delineated with shovel tests excavated at 20 m intervals in the standard two crossing transects (Figure 6-42). Four shovel tests (STs 2, 3, 5 and 6) yielded historic artifacts, including brick, historic sherds, glass, and corroded metal. No aboriginal material was recovered from shovel tests. All tests encountered a very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) silt loam plowzone from 0 to 15 cm below surface lying over a dark brown (10YR3/3) silty loam.

Five undiagnostic sherds of Baytown Plain were recovered from surface collections at Sunnyside No. 4, probably postdating the Baytown period

Table 6-27. Artifacts from the Stiletto Heel Site (16IV80).

	Surface Collection		Surface Collection
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>		<b>GLASS</b>	
Semi-Refined Earthenware		Molded	
Yellowware		Cup-Bottom Mold	
Annular (banded)		Unidentified lipping technique	
peach	1	clear purple	1
polychrome	5	Machine Made	
Annular (Dendritic)		Unidentified Mold Type	
polychrome		Owens machine made	
Glazed		clear	5
Green	2	cobalt blue	1
brown	2	milk (white)	1
blue	1	Unidentified machine type	
Refined Earthenware		clear	9
Early Whiteware		clear green	2
Embossed		clear purple	1
undecorated	1	cobalt blue	1
Whiteware		Unidentified Manufacturing technique	
Transfer-printed		brown	1
brown	1	clear	6
Hand-painted		clear purple	4
monochrome	1	cobalt blue and milk (white)	1
Decalcomania		milk (green)	2
polychrome	1	milk (white)	8
Slipped		Glass	
blue	1	Bead	
Undecorated		Faceted	
undecorated	9	translucent green	1
Ironstone		marble	
Undecorated		clear, orange	1
undecorated	1	clear, blue	1
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware		clear, green	1
Decalcomania		milk (green)	1
fugitive	2	milk (green), milk (white)	1
monochrome	1		
polychrome	3	<b>FAUNA</b>	
Undecorated		Vertebrate	
undecorated	6	Non-human	
Dark Ivory-Tinted Whiteware		Unidentified	
Undecorated		unidentified	1
undecorated	1		
Stoneware		<b>METAL</b>	
Albany (Int.), Unidentified (ext.)		Brass	
Undecorated		Button	
undecorated	1	unidentified	2
Albany (Int.), Bristol (ext.)		fitting	1
Undecorated		rivet	1
undecorated	1	Copper	
Albany (Int.), Salt (ext.)		Coin	
Undecorated		Penny	1
undecorated	1	Nickel	
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)		Coin	
Blue on white		nickel	1
undecorated	2	Unidentified	
Blue on white and molded		eyelet	1
undecorated	1		
Undecorated		<b>SYNTHETIC PRODUCT</b>	
undecorated	3	Synthetic	
Bristol (Int.), Unglazed (ext.)		Plastic	
Undecorated		Button	3
undecorated	1	Composition	
Slip (Int.), slip (ext.)		Black	1
Undecorated			
undecorated	1	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>124</b>
Porcelain			
Hard Paste			
Applique			
Blue and white	1		
Hand-painted			
monochrome	1		
Decalcomania and Hand-Painted			
polychrome and fugitive	2		
Undecorated			
undecorated	4		
Parian			
Molded	2		
Button			
Undecorated	2		
Semi-Porcelain			
Insulator	1		



**Figure 6-35.** Historic material recovered from the Stiletto Heel site (16IV80). a) Embossed "Alphabet Plate" on early whiteware; b) Orange-slipped stoneware; c) Blue-slipped whiteware; d) Decalcomania-decorated ivory-tinted whiteware; e) Ivory-tinted whiteware with Homer Laughlin manufacturer's mark, 1940-1965; f) Decalcomania-decorated porcelain; g) World War II Navy enlisted man's pea coat button; h) Inkwell manufactured by the Hazel-Atlas Glass Co., 1920 to 1964.

(Table 6-32). The historic occupation at the site is evinced by sherds of common whiteware, ivory-tinted whiteware, stoneware, and ironstone, along with molded and machine-made glass. Clear purple glass indicates a date between 1880 and 1915, while clear pink glass is depression ware from the 1930's. Three glass vessels bore identifiable manufacturer' marks, including Owens Illinois Glass Company marks dating to 1929 and 1934 (Toulouse 1972:403), and a Knox Glass Bottle Co. of Mississippi mark dating between 1932 and circa-1953 (Toulouse 1972:271). These artifacts suggest a continuous occupation between 1880 and 1950.

#### *Comments and Recommendations*

Sunnyside No. 4 is a small prehistoric (Neo-Indian) and late-nineteenth to early- twentieth century

historic tenant occupation. No intact deposits were encountered in delineation, and the site is not a good candidate for further research. No further testing is recommended.

#### *16IV86 Sunnyside No. 5*

##### *Location and Description*

The Sunnyside No. 5 site is a scatter of historic material (with a single aboriginal sherd) located about 250 m south/southeast of 16IV85 on the eastern natural levee crest of Bayou Grosse Tete. This site measures approximately 80 by 80 m, and is on Commerce soils (Figure 6-43). At the time of the survey, the site had just recently been leveled and disked, and a recent rain had moistened the soil enough to discern large-scale differences in soil color.

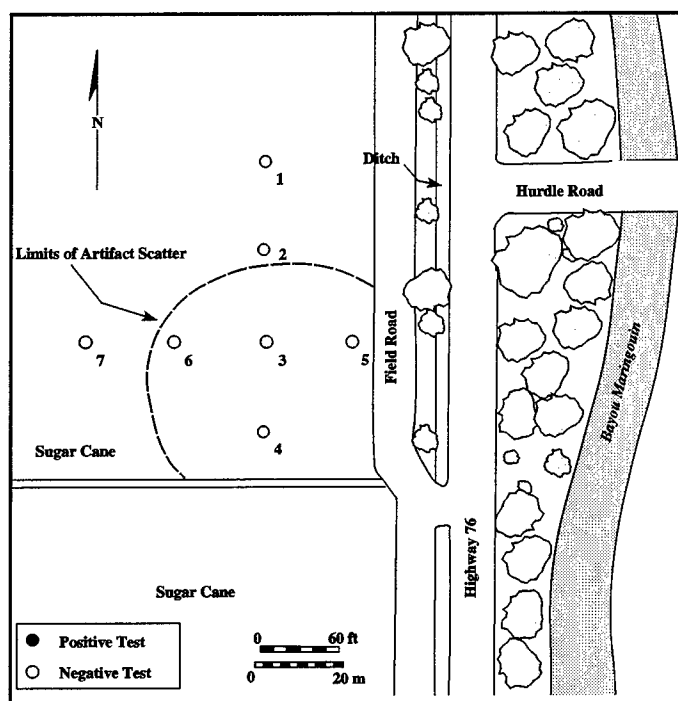


Figure 6-36. Sketch map of the Lackluster site (16IV81).

Because of these circumstances, a dark, roughly circular stain 35 m in diameter was discernible. The highest concentrations of artifacts were found within this area, and it is assumed to be some sort of midden stain.

The site was delineated with two crossing transects of shovel tests excavated at 30 m intervals. Natural stratigraphy is comprised of a brown (10YR5/3) silt loam plowzone lying over a yellowish brown (10YR5/6) silty loam in most tests. The majority of tests were positive for historic cultural material. Shovel Tests 3 through 5 and 8 through 12 yielded brick fragments, historic ceramics, and container glass. Shovel Tests 3, 4, and 11, excavated into the soil stain mentioned above, yielded a 15 cm-thick brown to dark brown (10YR4/3) silt loam, with a moderate amount of charcoal, over a yellowish brown (10YR5/6) silty loam. Although ST 4 produced a single brick fragment from 40 cm below surface, no intact deposits were encountered in shovel testing.

A single sherd of *Addis* was recovered from surface collections at Sunnyside No. 5, probably indicating a Mississippi period (A.D. 1200 to 1650) date (Table 6-33). Historic materials from the site included common whiteware, ironstone, and ivory-tinted whiteware.

Table 6-28. Artifacts from the Lackluster Site (16IV81).

	Surface Collection
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>	
Baytown Plain var. <i>Addis</i>	1
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>	
Semi-Refined Earthenware	
Yellowware	
Annular (banded) brown	1
Slipped White	2
Undecorated	
Undecorated	8
Refined Earthenware	
Whiteware	
Transfer-printed blue	3
Annular (banded) monochrome	2
Stamped blue and red	2
Molded undecorated	4
Undecorated	
undecorated	13
Ironstone	
Stamped blue and red	1
Undecorated	
Undecorated	3
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware	
Undecorated	
undecorated	4
Stoneware	
Albany (Int.), Albany (ext.) undecorated	1
undecorated	
Albany (Int.), Salt (ext.) undecorated	1
undecorated	
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.) undecorated	2
undecorated	
Unglazed (Int.), Bristol (ext.) undecorated	1
undecorated	
Unglazed (int.), Salt (ext.) undecorated	2
undecorated	
Unglazed (Int.), Unglazed (ext.) undecorated	
undecorated	1
Tobacco Pipe	
Porcelain	
Hard Paste undecorated	1
undecorated	
Parian Figurine	1
Button undecorated	2
<b>GLASS</b>	
Molded	
Cup-Bottom Mold	
Unidentified lipping technique clear	1
clear purple	1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique clear	1
clear blue	1
clear purple	3
cobalt blue	1
<b>METAL</b>	
Brass grommet	1
<b>STONE</b>	
Construction Material	
Slate Unidentified	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>67</b>



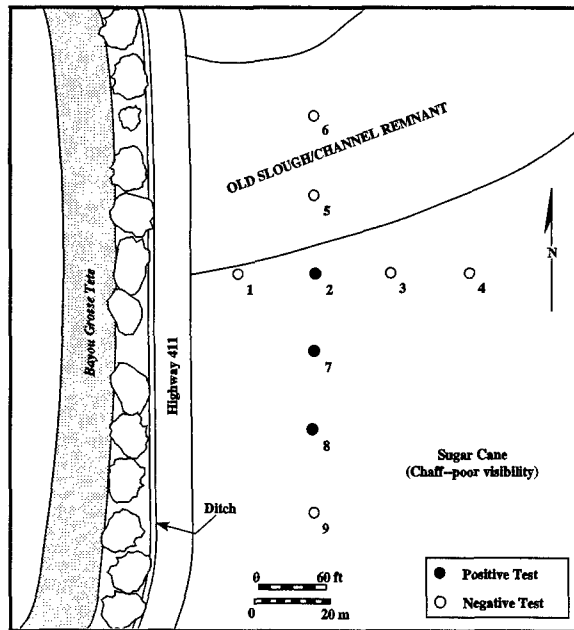


Figure 6-37. Sketch map of the Sunnyside No. 1 site (16IV82).

Table 6-29. Artifacts from the Sunnyside No. 1 Site (16IV82).

	Shovel Test #2	Shovel Test #8	TOTAL
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>			
Refined Earthenware			
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware			
Undecorated			
undecorated		3	3
<b>GLASS</b>			
Machine Made			
Owens machine made			
clear	1		1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique			
clear	2		2
clear green	1		1
milk (white)	1		1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>

Most whiteware sherds were plain, with the exception of a single piece with a clear green glaze, dating from the early- to mid-twentieth century. Shards of glass including molded and machine-made glass were identified, as well as clear purple glass dating from the turn-of-the-twentieth-century. A single manufacturer's mark indicates that one glass vessel was made by the Illinois Glass Co. between 1916 and 1929 (Toulouse 1972:403). Overall, the historic

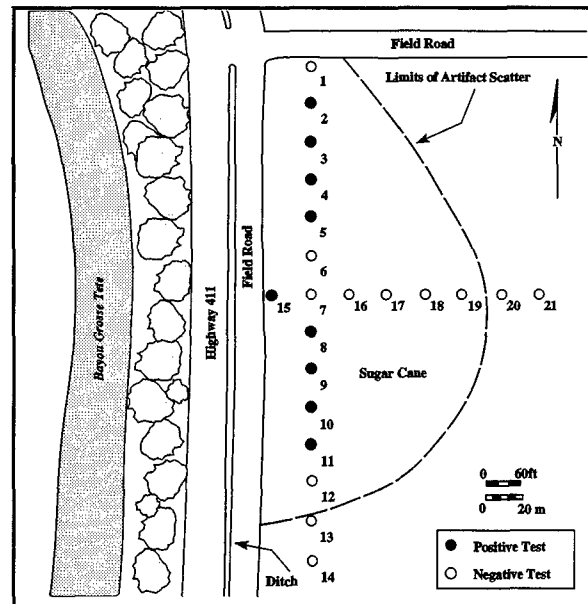


Figure 6-38. Sketch map of the Sunnyside No. 2 site (16IV83).

assemblage suggests an occupation dating between 1870 and 1930.

### Comments and Recommendations

The Sunnyside No. 5 site was occupied during the Mississippi period (A.D. 1200 to 1650), and again in late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Despite a relatively large, dark soil stain in the center of the site, it does not appear as though Sunnyside No. 5 harbors intact deposits, prehistoric or historic. The site is not considered to hold much potential for archaeological research, and is not recommended for further testing.

### 16IV87 Sunnyside No. 6

#### Location and Description

Sunnyside No. 6 is a very small (30 by 30 m) scatter of historic and prehistoric artifacts on the crest of the natural levee of Bayou Grosse Tete, 500 m north of the bridge at Slacks, LA (Figure 6-44). The site lies on a low ridge of Convent silt loams, and is sparse for prehistoric materials, and even less dense for historic artifacts. Two transects of shovel tests were excavated here at 20 m intervals, revealing a small handful of brick fragments from the plowzone in STs 2 and 7. Stratigraphy at the site was com-

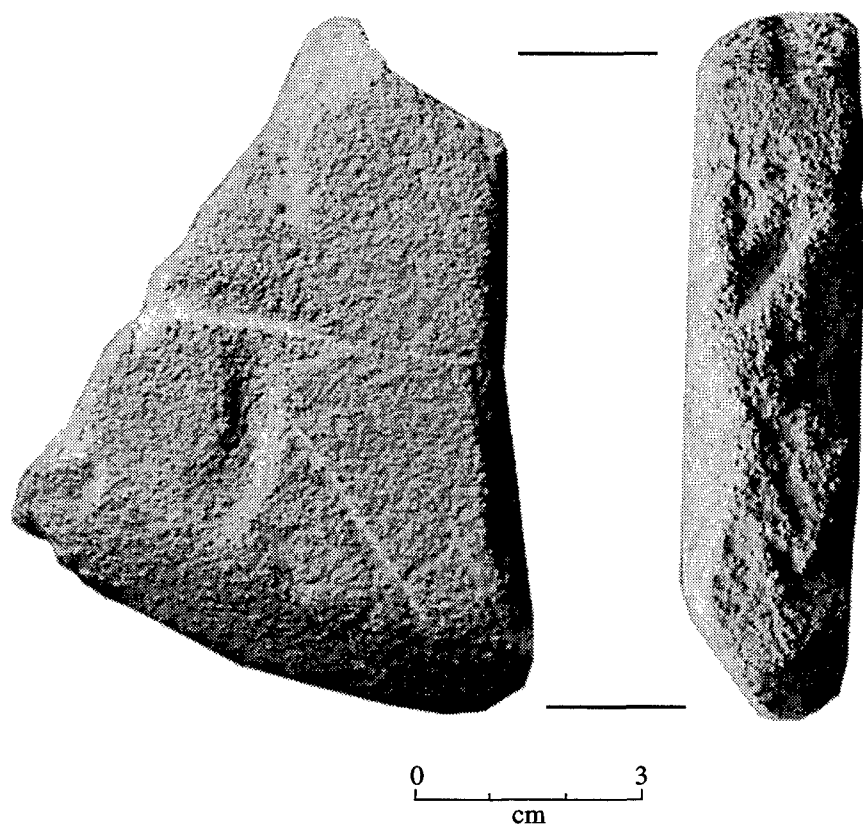
Table 6-30. Artifacts from the Sunnyside No. 2 Site (16IV83).

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #3	TOTAL		Surface Collection	Shovel Test #3	TOTAL
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>				<b>Porcelain</b>			
Baytown Plain				Bisque			
var. unspecified	6		6	Painted	1		1
<b>PREHISTORIC LITHICS</b>				Hard Paste			
Chipped Stone				Decalcomania			
Chert				monochrome	1		1
Core Fragment	1		1	Molded			
Flake	1		1	undecorated	3		3
Ground Stone				Undecorated			
Sandstone				undecorated	7		7
Disk Fragment	1		1	Semi-Porcelain			
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>				Decalcomania			
Semi-Refined Earthenware				polychrome	1		1
Refined Earthenware				Undecorate			
Whiteware				undecorated	1		1
Transfer-printed and Embossed				Door Knob	1		1
Red	1		1	<b>GLASS</b>			
Hand-painted				Molded			
monochrome	2		2	Unidentified Mold Type			
Stenciled				Lipping Tooled			
blue	1		1	clear purple	1		1
black	1		1	Machine Made			
Molded				Unidentified Mold Type			
undecorated	1		1	Owens machine made			
Undecorated				clear	2		2
undecorated	6	1	7	clear blue	1		1
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware				modern green	1		1
Molded				Unidentified machine type			
undecorated	2		2	clear	1		1
Undecorated				clear purple	1		1
undecorated	4		4	Pressed			
Stoneware				clear purple	1		1
Albany (Int.), Unglazed (ext.)				Unidentified Manufacturing technique			
Undecorated				brown	2		2
undecorated	1		1	clear	4		4
Albany (Int.), Albany (ext.)				clear purple	7		7
Molded				clear yellow	1		1
undecorated	2		2	clear pink	1		1
Undecorated				cobalt blue	1		1
undecorated	3		3	milk (white)	8	2	10
Albany (Int.), Albany and Unglazed (ext.)				<b>Glass</b>			
Undecorated				Cabochon			
undecorated	1		1	red	1		1
Albany (Int.), Salt (ext.)				<b>METAL</b>			
Undecorated				Brass			
undecorated	2		2	rivet	1		1
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)				Nickel			
Blue on white and molded				Coin			
undecorated	2		2	nickel	1		1
Blue on white				<b>STONE</b>			
undecorated	2		2	Construction Material			
Undecorated				Asbestos			
undecorated	1		1	Tile	1		1
Slip (Int.), slip (ext.)				<b>MINERAL</b>			
Annular (Banded)				Graphite			
white and peach	1		1	Battery rod	1		1
blue	1		1	<b>UNIDENTIFIED CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL</b>			
Bristol & Unglazed (Int.), Bristol (ext.)				Mortar or Plaster?			
Molded and Blue on white				Unidentified			
undecorated	1		1	Yellow (throughout)	1		1
				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100</b>

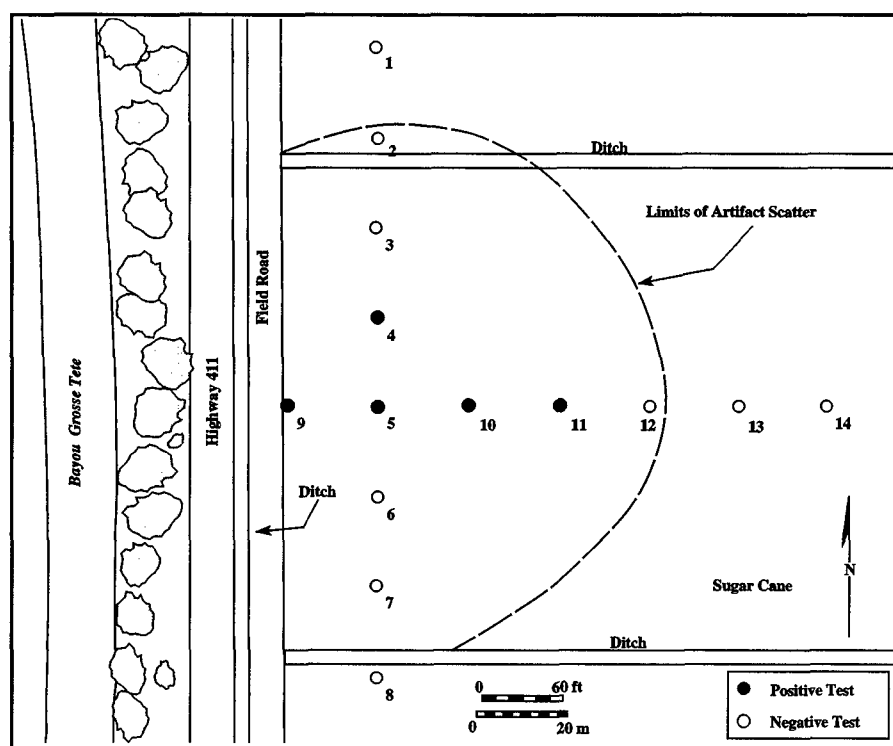
posed of a brown to dark brown (10YR4/3) silt loam plowzone from 0 to 14 cm below surface, over a yellowish brown (10YR5/4) silt loam subsoil. No cultural stratigraphy was noted below the plowzone in any tests.

Apart from a single sherd of Plaquemine Brushed, var. *Plaquemine*, dating to the Mississippi period (A.D. 1200 to 1650), prehistoric sherds from the Sunnyside

No. 6 site were generally diagnostic of an occupation after the Baytown period (Table 6-34). A small number of historic artifacts were collected from the site as well, including common whiteware, ironstone, machine-made glass, and clear purple glass of unidentified manufacturing technique. An approximate date for this historic component, like so many of the historic sites in this survey, lies between 1880 and 1920.



**Figure 6-39.** Front and side views of Stone disc fragment recovered from the Sunnyside No. 2 site (16IV83).



**Figure 6-40.** Sketch map of the Sunnyside No. 3 site (16IV84).

Table 6-31. Artifacts from the Sunnyside No. 3 Site (16IV84).

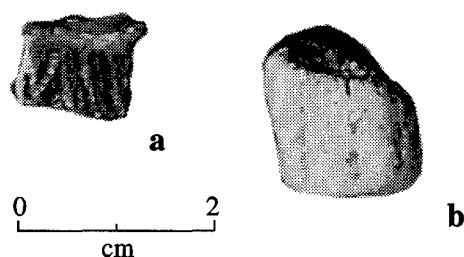
	Surface Collection		Surface Collection
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>		<b>GLASS</b>	
Baytown Plain		Machine Made	
var. <i>Addis</i>	6	Unidentified Mold Type	
var. <i>unspecified</i>	6	Unidentified machine type	
Plaquemine Brushed		clear	1
var. <i>Plaquemine</i>	1	light blue	1
Unidentified Incised on Baytown Plain,		Unidentified Manufacturing technique	
var. <i>unspecified</i>	1	clear	2
Ear plug fragment, fluted, on Baytown Plain,		clear blue	1
var. <i>Addis</i>	1	clear green	2
		clear purple	9
<b>PREHISTORIC OTHER</b>		milk (blue)	2
Daub	1	milk (green)	2
		milk (white)	10
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>		peach carnival	1
Refined Earthenware			
Whiteware		<b>Glass</b>	
Undecorated		marble	
undecorated	3	blue, milk (white)	2
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware		blue, clear	1
Hand-painted		orange, milk (white)	1
monochrome	2	clear, milk (white)	1
Decalcomania			
monochrome	1	<b>FAUNA</b>	
Molded		Invertebrate	
undecorated	1	Coral	
Undecorated		unidentified	1
undecorated	8		
Fiestaware		<b>METAL</b>	
Undecorated		Lead	
Turquoise	1	Unidentified	
Burgundy	1	unidentified	1
Stoneware		Cuprous	
Albany (Int.), Albany (ext.)		Electrical	
Undecorated		unidentified	1
undecorated	2	Ferrous	
Albany (Int.), Bristol (ext.)		Utensil	
Undecorated		Knife	1
undecorated	3		
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)		<b>STONE</b>	
Undecorated		Construction Material	
undecorated	2	Slate	
Unidentified Stoneware		Unidentified	1
Undecorated			
undecorated	1	<b>SYNTHETIC PRODUCT</b>	
Porcelain		Synthetic	
Hard Paste		Rubber	
Decalcomania		button	1
polychrome	1		
fugitive	1	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>90</b>
Decalcomania and Repoussé			
polychrome	1		
Undecorated			
undecorated	2		
Button			
Undecorated	1		
Semi-Porcelain			
Undecorated			
undecorated	1		

**Comments and Recommendations**

Sunnyside No. 6 is a small Plaquemine (A.D. 1200 - 1450) occupation with a minor, turn-of-the-twentieth-century historic component. Very few artifacts were recovered from this site, in no real concentrations. This site is not considered a candidate for further testing.

**16IV88 Sunnyside No. 7****Location and Description**

Lying approximately 150 m north of 16IV87, the Sunnyside No. 7 site is a large (80 by 120 m, oriented east to west) scatter of historic and recent artifacts with a minor prehistoric component (Fig-

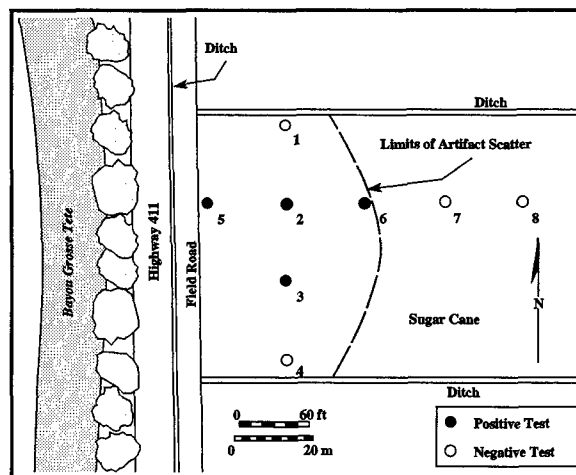


**Figure 6-41.** Prehistoric material recovered from the Sunnyside No. 3 site (16IV84). a) Mazique Incised, *var. Manchac*; b) Fluted earplug, on paste equivalent to Baytown Plain, *var. Addis*.

ure 6-45). Sunnyside No. 7 shares the same levee formation and Convent soils as Sunnyside Plantation No. 6 site, lying on the east side of Bayou Grosse Tete. The 1935 Grosse Tete, LA 15' quadrangle shows three structures here during this year, and a single structure remains by the publication of the 1992 Grosse Tete, LA 7.5' quadrangle. Today the site lies in a cultivated field, marked by the presence of a few large trees on the south side of a gravel field road.

Sunnyside No. 7 was delineated with shovel tests spaced at 20 m intervals in two crossing transects. No prehistoric materials were noted, and no historic materials or cultural stratigraphy were noted below the plowzone. Several shovel tests (STs 2, 3, 9, and 11 through 13) produced historic materials from the plowzone, most commonly brick, with some historic ceramics, container glass, and a piece of plastic in ST 13. Otherwise, stratigraphy was a uniform brown to dark brown (10YR4/3) silt loam from 0 to 15 cm below surface covering a yellowish brown (10YR5/4) sterile silt loam.

A single sherd of Mazique Incised, *var. Manchac*, dates the Sunnyside No. 7 site to the late Coles Creek (A.D. 1000 to 1200) or Mississippi periods (A.D. 1200 to 1650; Table 6-35). The site also produced a large collection of twentieth century historic ceramics and glass (Figure 6-46). Common whiteware, ivory-tinted whiteware, ironstone, stoneware, and modern stoneware (microwave- and dishwasher-safe) were found here. Repoussé, decalcomania, and machine-stamped decorative techniques were common, probably dating the common whitewares to the early half of the century. Japanese maker's marks on some ceramics indicate post-1921 activity at the site (Kovel



**Figure 6-42.** Sketch map of the Sunnyside No. 4 site (16IV85).

and Kovel 1986:229). Molded and machine-made vessel glass were noted, including clear purple glass dating to the turn-of-the-twentieth-century. Several complete and nearly complete glass containers were collected as well. Manufacturers marks included two Maryland Glass Corp., Baltimore, Maryland marks dating post-1916; a Hazel-Atlas Glass Company mark dating to 1920 - 1964; two Brockway Machine Bottle Company or Brockway Glass Company marks dating post-1925; an Owens Illinois Glass Company "Duraglas" mark dating after 1940; a Fairmont Glass Company mark dating from 1945 - 1960; and an Owens Illinois Glass Company mark postdating 1954. These marks indicate an historic occupation from 1916 - 1960. One .38 Special cartridge casing was found dating to post-1960. Plastic containers and tools were noted, but not collected at the site, also indicating a relatively recent occupation. The artifacts collected from the Sunnyside #7 site indicate a continuous occupation from 1890 - 1970, and probably later.

#### Comments and Recommendations

Sunnyside No. 7 is a large historic scatter, probably representing at least three structures present in the early half of the twentieth century. The historic occupation appears to cover most of the twentieth century, from the turn of the century to at least 1970, and the site could well have been occupied into the 1990's, as a structure appears here on the 1992 Grosse Tete, LA 7.5' quadrangle. A small late Coles Creek or Mississippi period component was also noted at the site. No intact deposits were noted in shovel testing, and it is not believed that the site merits further testing.

Table 6-32. Artifacts from the Sunnyside No. 4 Site (16IV85).

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #2	Shovel Test #5	Shovel Test #6	Shovel Test #7	TOTAL
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>						
Baytown Plain						
var. unspecified	5					5
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>						
Coarse Earthenware						
Lead Glaze						
Doorknob	1					1
Semi-Refined Earthenware						
Yellowware						
Glazed						
green	1					1
Refined Earthenware						
Whiteware						
Transfer-printed						
red	1					1
black	1					1
Annular (banded)						
monochrome	1					1
Decalcomania						
monochrome	1					1
Stencil						
blue	3					3
black	1					1
Repoussé						
Undecorated	1					1
Undecorated						
undecorated	12		1	1		14
Ironstone						
Molded						
undecorated	2					2
Undecorated						
Undecorated	1					1
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware						
Decalcomania						
polychrome	1					1
Undecorated						
undecorated	2					2
Unidentified Refined Earthenware						
Stenciled						
blue	1					1
Undecorated						
Undecorated	1					1
Stoneware						
Albany (Int.), Slip (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated	1					1
Albany (Int.), Bristol and Slip (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated	2					2
Albany (Int.), Albany on Salt (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated	1					1
Albany (Int.), Salt (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated	1					1
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)						
Blue on white						
undecorated	3					3
Slip (Int.), slip (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated	1					1
Slip (Int.), salt (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated	1					1

(continued)

Table 6-32. Concluded.

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #2	Shovel Test #5	Shovel Test #6	Shovel Test #7	TOTAL
Porcelain						
Bisque						
Painted						
red and fugitive	1					1
Doll	1					1
Undecorated						
undecorated	1					1
Hard Paste						
Transfer-printed (overglaze)						
blue	1					1
Undecorated						
undecorated	2					2
Semi-Porcelain						
Doll						
Hand-painted						
brown	1					1
Die						
Hand-painted						
black	1					1
Undecorate						
undecorated	3					3
GLASS						
Molded						
Unidentified Mold Type						
Lipping Tooled						
clear blue	1					1
Machine Made						
Unidentified Mold Type						
Owens machine made						
clear	2					2
Unidentified machine type						
clear	3					3
Unidentified Manufacturing technique						
brown	1					1
clear	2			1	1	4
clear purple	7			1		8
clear pink	3					3
cobalt blue	3					3
milk (blue)	3					3
milk (white)	14					14
Glass						
marble						
milk (blue)	1					1
FAUNA						
Vertebrate						
Non-human						
Tooth						
Fragments		10				10
METAL						
Cuprous						
Rivet	3					3
TOTAL	100	10	1	3	1	115

**16IV95 Full Crew****Location and Description**

The Full Crew site lies 1100 m south/southeast of the bridge connecting LA Highways 411 and 77 at Maringouin (Figure 6-47). Full Crew is a large

(90 by 100 m) historic site with a minor prehistoric component on Convent soils, sharing the same eastern natural levee of Bayou Grosse Tete as the Sunnyside sites. Delineation at Full Crew was accomplished with two transects of shovel tests excavated at 30 m intervals. Stratigraphy was composed of a 15 cm-thick brown to dark brown (10YR4/3) silty clay

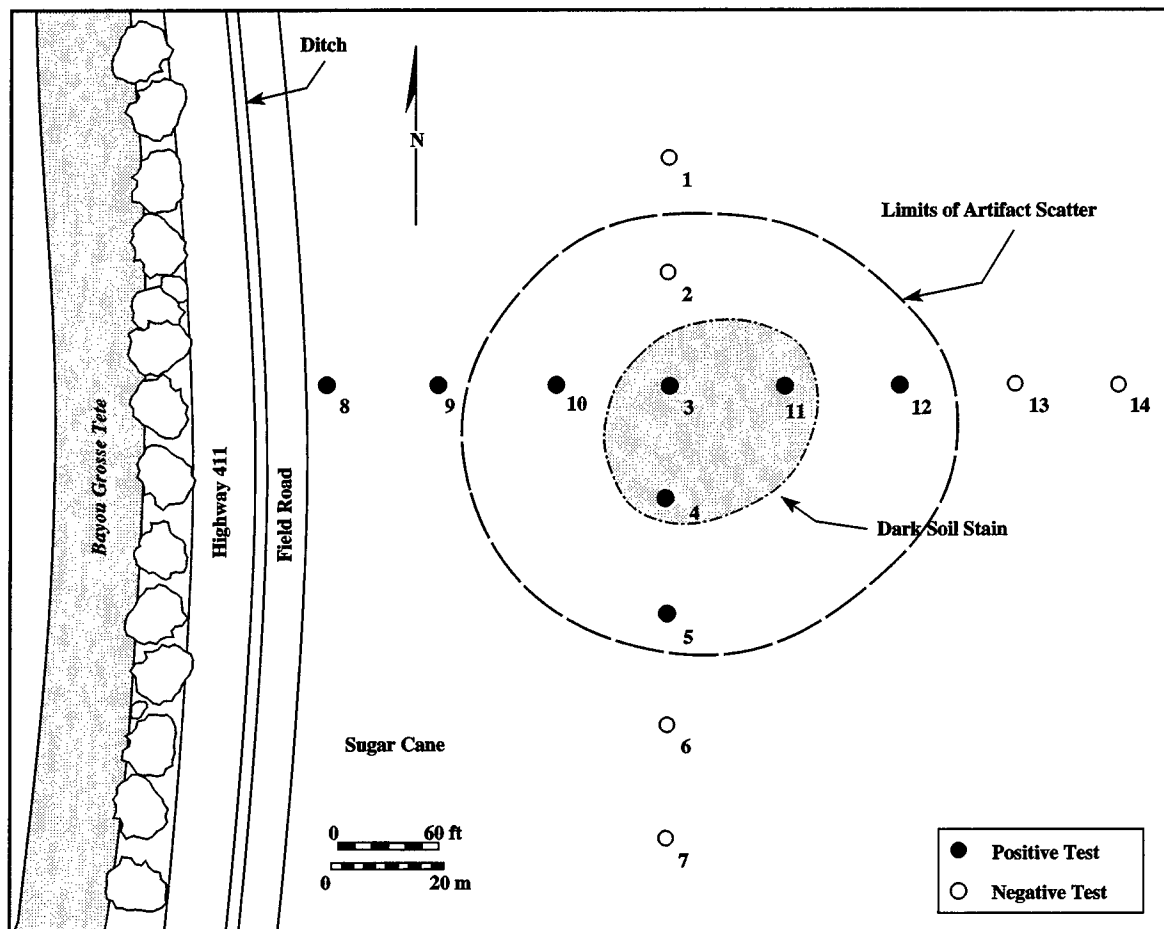


Figure 6-43. Sketch map of the Sunnyside No. 5 site (16IV86).

plowzone over a sterile grayish brown (10YR5/2) silty clay subsoil. Four positive shovel tests (STs 3, 4, 10, and 11) yielded small quantities of brick fragments, mortar, clear glass, nails, and a single piece of common whiteware. All artifacts were found in the plowzone.

Five Baytown Plain sherds were recovered from the Full Crew site, probably manufactured in the Coles Creek period (A.D. 700 to 1200) or later (Table 6-36). A single sherd of *var. Plaquemine* suggests that a Mississippi period (A.D. 1200 to 1650) component was present. Common whiteware, ironstone, ivory-tinted whiteware, fiestaware, American majolica and stoneware make up the historic ceramic collection. Sherds of repoussé- and decalcomania-decorated wares date some of the ironstone and common whiteware to the early half of the twentieth century. Glass collected from the site included molded and machine-made glass, as well as clear purple and clear yellow glass of unidentified manufacturing technique.

Two vessels bore manufacturer's marks, one from the Swindell Bros. of Baltimore, Maryland (1920 - 1959) and the other from the Hazel-Atlas Glass Co. (1920 - 1954; Toulouse 1972). A Louisiana Luxury Tax token dating from 1936 to 1938 was also found (Crawford et al. 1982:334). These historic materials were probably in use between 1880 and 1940.

#### Comments and Recommendations

Full Crew is a large, late-nineteenth and early-twentieth-century historic site that also produced a half-dozen Plaquemine sherds. No intact features or deposits were noted, and the site is not recommended for further work.

#### 16IV96 Soggy Bottom

##### Location and Description

Approximately 100 m north of Sunnyside No. 7



Table 6-33. Artifacts from the Sunnyside No. 5 Site (16IV86).

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #3	Shovel Test #8	Shovel Test #11	TOTAL
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>					
Baytown Plain					
<i>var. Addis</i>	1				1
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>					
Semi-Refined Earthenware					
Yellowware					
Annular (banded)					
brown	1				1
white	1				1
Undecorated					
Undecorated	1				1
Refined Earthenware					
Whiteware					
Hand-painted					
polychrome	1				1
Stamped					
monochrome	1				1
Repousse					
Undecorated				1	1
Glazed					
clear green	1				1
Undecorated					
undecorated	6	1			7
Ironstone					
Molded					
undecorated	1				1
Repoussé					
undecorated	2				2
Undecorated					
Undecorated	1				1
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware					
Undecorated					
undecorated				1	1
Ball clay					
Tobacco pipe					
undecorated	1				1
Stoneware					
Albany (Int.), Albany (ext.)					
Undecorated					
undecorated				1	1
Albany (Int.), Bristol (ext.)					
Undecorated					
undecorated	2				2
Albany (Int.), Salt (ext.)					
Undecorated					
undecorated	1				1
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)					
Blue on white					
undecorated	1				1
Undecorated					
undecorated	1				1
Slip (Int.), salt (ext.)					
Undecorated					
undecorated	1				1

(continued)

Table 6-33. Concluded.

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #3	Shovel Test #8	Shovel Test #11	TOTAL
Porcelain					
Hard Paste					
Molded					
undecorated	3				3
Undecorated					
undecorated	5				5
Semi-Porcelain					
Insulator	1				1
Decalcomania					
fugitive	1				1
Painted?					
blue	2				2
<b>GLASS</b>					
Molded					
Cup Bottom Mold					
Unidentified Lipping Technique					
clear purple	1				1
Unidentified Mold Type					
Lipping Tooled					
clear blue	1				1
Machine Made					
Unidentified Mold Type					
Owens Machine					
clear purple	1				1
Unidentified machine type					
clear	1				1
clear purple	1				1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique					
clear	1		1		2
clear purple	6				6
cobalt blue	3				3
milk (white)	7				7
olive amber	1				1
opalescent	1				1
vaseline	1				1
Glass					
marble					
milk (white), green	2				2
milk (white), cobalt blue	1				1
<b>SYNTHETIC PRODUCT</b>					
Synthetic					
Rubber					
shoe heel	1				1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>70</b>

(16IV88) is a large (60 by 100 m) scatter of historic artifacts, the Soggy Bottom site (Figure 6-48). This occupation shares the same natural levee formation as the Sunnyside sites, lying east of Bayou Grosse Tete on Commerce soils. Although it is gone by the publication of the 1992 Grosse Tete 7.5' quadrangle,

a structure is depicted on this spot in the 1935 Grosse Tete, LA 15' topographic map.

The Soggy Bottom site was delineated with two crossing transects of shovel tests spaced at 20 m intervals. A typical shovel test profile revealed a 16

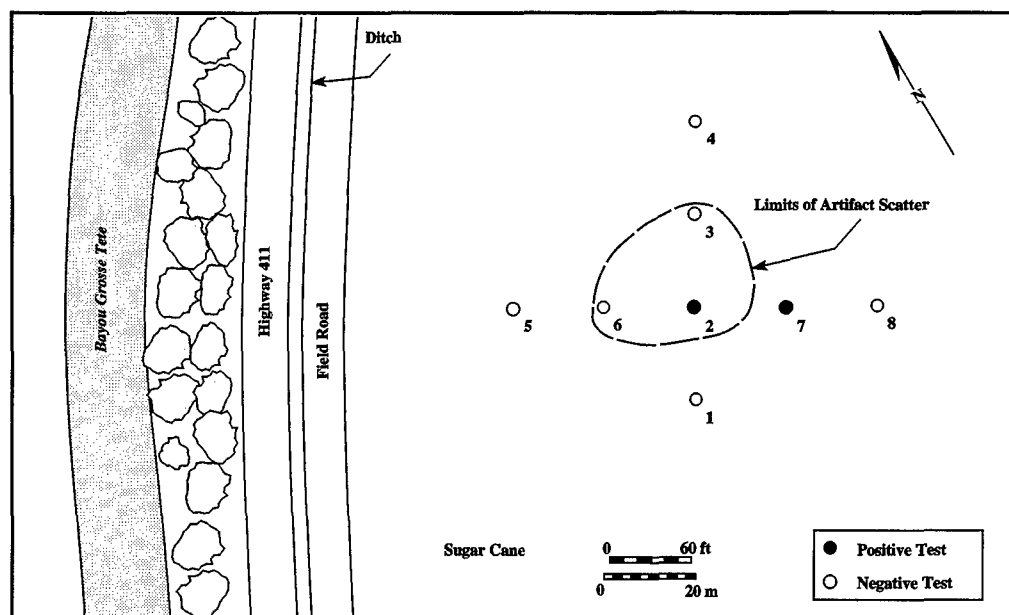


Figure 6-44. Sketch map of the Sunnyside No. 6 site (16IV87).

Table 6-34. Artifacts from the Sunnyside No. 6 Site (16IV87).

	Surface Collection
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>	
Baytown Plain	
var. unspecified	11
Plaquemine Brushed	
var. Plaquemine	1
Unidentified Incised on Baytown Plain, var. unspecified	1
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>	
<b>Refined Earthenwares</b>	
Whiteware	
Transfer-printed	
blue (revival)	1
Ironstone	
Undecorated	19
Undecorated	
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware	
Undecorated	3
undecorated	
Porcelain	
Hard Paste	
Undecorated	1
undecorated	
Button	
Undecorated	1
Semi-Porcelain	
Insulator	1
<b>GLASS</b>	
Machine Made	
Unidentified Mold Type	
Owens machine	
clear purple	1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique	
clear purple	8
milk (blue)	1
milk (white)	1
<b>METAL</b>	
Brass	
fitting	1
White	
Unidentified	
unidentified	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>52</b>

cm-deep brown (10YR4/3) to dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) silty loam plowzone over a yellowish brown (10YR5/4) silty loam subsoil. Shovel Tests 2 through 7 produced brick fragments, historic ceramics, container glass, and/or pieces of metal. Few artifacts were found below the plowzone; ST 7, however, produced a deposit of whole and partial bricks, charcoal, nylon pantyhose, wood, and cloth just below the plowzone, along with pieces of clear and milk glass. This feature is probably of a relatively recent date.

The Soggy Bottom site collection included historic ceramics such as common whiteware, ironstone, ivory-tinted whiteware, and stoneware (Table 6-37 and Figure 6-49). Most ceramics were plain with the exception of a few repoussé and decalcomania sherds, and a gilded sherd dating from the turn-of-the-twentieth century and later. Glass from the site was largely machine-made, although a few sherds of clear purple glass of unidentified manufacturing technique were also noted. Overall, the collection appears to date to the first half of the twentieth century. However, some more recent materials were noted but not collected, such as plastic containers and aluminum cans, as well as some of the materials noted in ST 7.

#### Comments and Recommendations

Soggy Bottom is a domestic occupation dating largely from the first half of the twentieth century, although a later occupation is suggested by uncol-

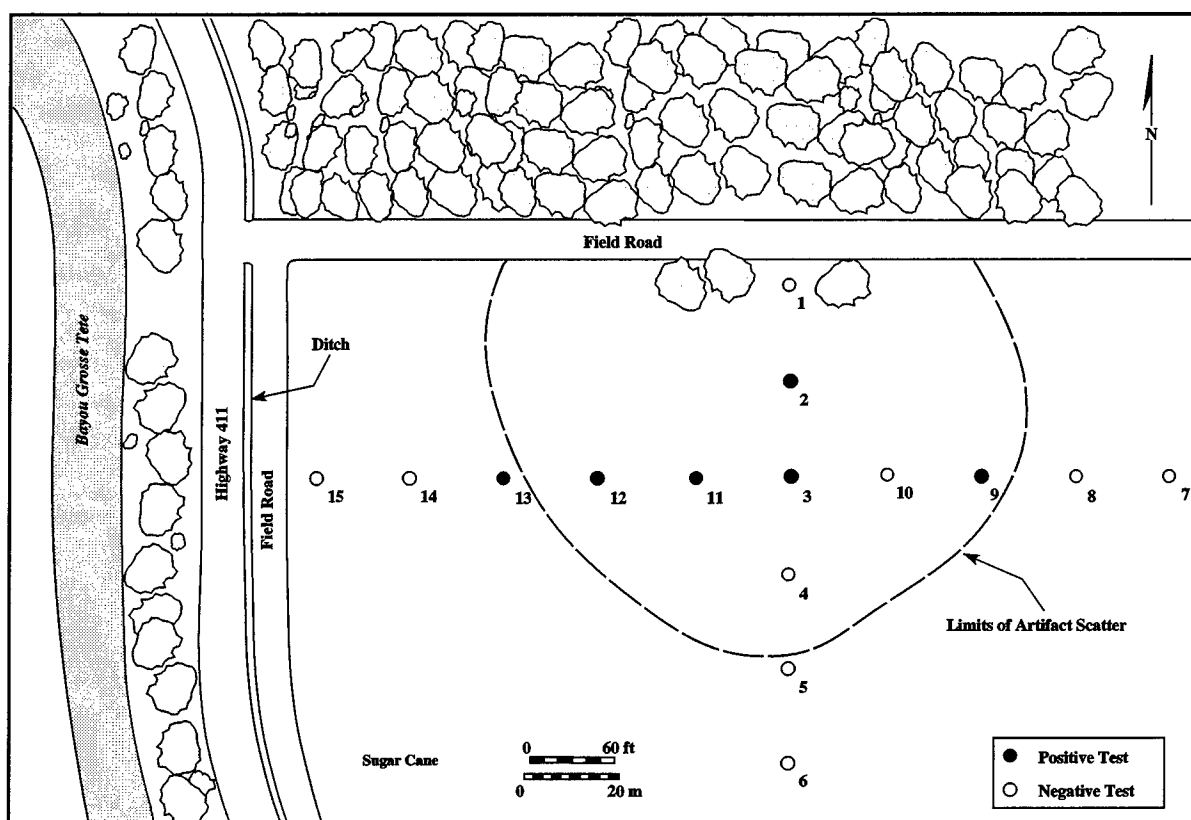


Figure 6-45. Sketch map of the Sunnyside No. 7 site (16IV88).

lected materials. No intact deposits were noted at the site that would give the impression of anything other than a recent age. This site is not recommended for further testing.

#### 16IV97 The Big Brown One

##### *Location and Description*

The Big Brown One site is a very large (200 by 160 m, oriented northwest to southeast) scatter of historic materials on the eastern natural levee of Bayou Grosse Tete, 400 m north of the bridge at Slacks, LA (Figure 6-50). This appears to be the remains of a good-sized community; eleven structures were recorded here in 1935, on the Grosse Tete, LA 15' quadrangle, all of which had disappeared by the publication of the 1992 Grosse Tete 7.5' map. Today, a large grassy area marks much of the site, along with an oval gravel road that may be a driveway. A large (25 by 30 m) rectangle of dead grass and disturbed soil may represent the foundation of a house. The recent cane harvest had obscured much of the

cultivated field surrounding the site, so the full extent of the scatter may not be known.

This site was tested by two long crossing transects of shovel tests, dug at 20 meter intervals. The majority of shovel tests were positive for cultural material, mostly brick fragments, with historic ceramics, container glass, nails, amorphous rusted iron, and/or mortar. Shovel Tests 10 and 11 were especially productive, producing large amounts of glass and metal throughout. Stratigraphy, however, remains largely unchanged across the site, consisting of a 15 cm-thick dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) silt loam plowzone over a yellowish brown (10YR5/4) silt loam subsoil.

The majority of historic ceramics from The Big Brown One site were plainwares, such as common whiteware, ironstone, ivory-tinted whiteware, redware, and stoneware (Table 6-38, Figure 6-51). As with the previous site, sherds decorated with repoussé and decalcomania motifs make up the majority of decorated sherds, although a single machine-stamped sherd

Table 6-35. Artifacts from the Sunnyside No. 7 Site (16IV88).

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #2	Shovel Test #3	Shovel Test #9	Shovel Test #12	TOTAL
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>						
Baytown Plain						
<i>var. unspecified</i>	5					5
Mazique Incised						
<i>var. Manchac</i>	1					1
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>						
Semi-Refined Earthenware						
Yellowware						
Annular (banded)						
polychrome	1					1
Refined Earthenware						
Whiteware						
Hand-painted						
monochrome	1					1
Decalcomania						
fugitive	1					1
Repoussé						
Undecorated	1					1
Machine stamped						
polychrome	2					2
Undecorated						
undecorated	3					3
Ironstone						
Molded						
undecorated	1					1
Molded and Gilt						
undecorated	1					1
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware						
Decalcomania						
monochrome	1					1
polychrome	2	1				3
Decalcomania and gilt						
polychrome	1					1
Repoussé						
undecorated	3					3
Repoussé and Decalcomania						
fugitive	1					1
Molded						
undecorated	2					2
Undecorated						
undecorated	1				1	2
Unidentified Refined Earthenware						
Molded and Gilt						
undecorated	1					1
Undecorated						
Undecorated	1					1
Stoneware						
Albany (Int.), Albany (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated	1					1
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated	1					1
Bristol (Int.), Unglazed (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated	1					1
Unglazed (Int.), Bristol (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated	1					1
Molded						
Glazed						
Clear Brown	1					1
Moderr						
Painted						
polychrome	1					1
Porcelain						
Bisque						
Doll						
Hand-painted						
black	1					1
Hard Paste						
Transfer-printed (overglaze)						
blue	2					2
Undecorated						
undecorated	4					4

(continued)

Table 6-35. Concluded.

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #2	Shovel Test #3	Shovel Test #9	Shovel Test #12	TOTAL
Semi-Porcelain						
spark plug	1					1
Door Knob						
Glazed						
brown	1					1
Molded						
Glazed						
yellow green	3					3
Undecorate						
Glazed						
red and blue	1					1
Wall insulator	1					1
<b>GLASS</b>						
Molded						
Cup-Bottom Mold						
Unidentified lipping technique						
cobalt blue	1					1
Unidentified Mold Type						
Lipping Tooled						
clear	1					1
clear blue	1					1
Machine Made						
Unidentified Mold Type						
Owens machine made						
brown	1					1
clear	6					6
clear blue	1					1
clear yellow	1					1
Unidentified machine type						
brown	2					2
clear	6					6
clear yellow	1					1
cobalt blue	5					5
olive	1					1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique						
clear	8	1	1	1		11
clear blue	1					1
clear green	1					1
clear purple	3					3
clear yellow	1					1
cobalt blue	5					5
milk (blue)	1					1
milk (white)	3					3
modern green	1					1
Glass						
light bulb						
clear	1					1
marble						
blue, milk (white)	1					1
<b>FAUNA</b>						
Vertebrate						
Non-human						
horn	1					1
pig tusk	1					1
<b>METAL</b>						
Lead						
roofing nail cap	2					2
Steel						
bolt	1					1
knife	1					1
Brass						
Cartridge	1					1
furniture ornament	1					1
suspender slide	1					1
Copper						
Coin						
Penny	1					1
<b>SYNTHETIC PRODUCT</b>						
Synthetic						
Plastic						
button	3					3
screw cap	1					1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>122</b>



**Figure 6-46.** Historic material recovered from the Sunnyside No. 7 site (16IV88). a) Machine-stamped whiteware; b) Machine-stamped and painted modern stoneware; c) Repoussé-decorated ivory-tinted whiteware; d) Machine-made glass bottle (Dr. Tichenor's Antiseptic); e) Machine made glass bottle (Hind's Honey and Almond Cream, A. S. Hinds Co, Bloomfield, NJ); f-h) Machine-made glass bottles.

was also collected. Owens and valve machines were used to manufacture the majority of glass vessels at the site; others were unidentified as to manufacturing technique. One glass bottle had an Owens Illinois Glass Co. mark, identifiable to the year 1938. Overall, this collection probably dates between 1890 and 1945.

#### **Comments and Recommendations**

The Big Brown One site is a very large scatter of early- to mid-twentieth century artifacts, probably the remains of a small cluster of structures extant in 1935. Due to the recent harvest, the full extent of the scatter may not be known. More investi-

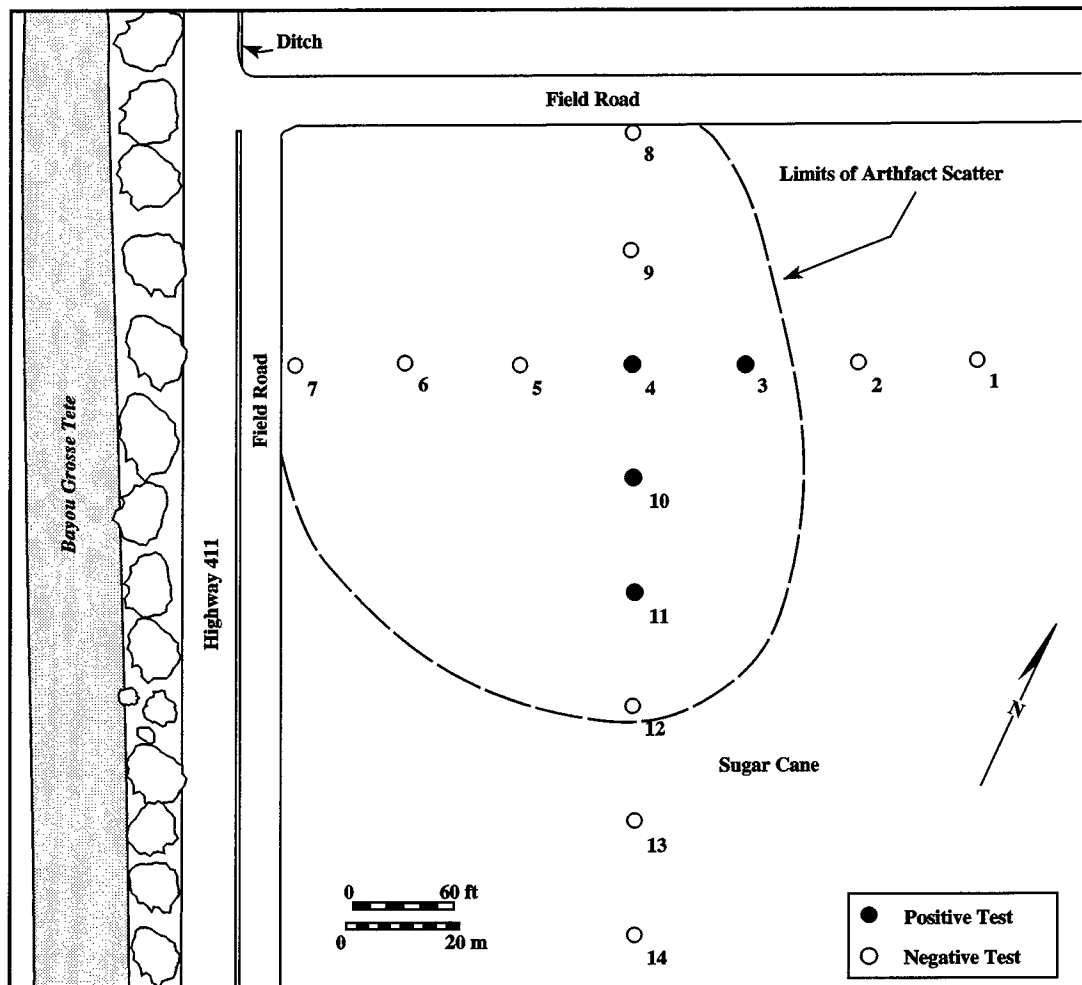


Figure 6-47. Sketch map of the Full Crew site (16IV95).

gation is recommended to determine the nature of the subsurface deposits and delineate the full extent of the site.

#### 16IV98 Center Plantation No. 3

##### *Location and Description*

At the time of our return to Center Plantation property, the cane harvest had been completed and much of the ground was covered in cane chaff. The last three Center Plantation sites (No. 3, 4 and 5) are therefore not as well-defined as the first two. Center Plantation No. 3 was the best-exposed of these sites and is therefore probably the most well-defined. This is a small (60 by 60 m) scatter of historic artifacts located just across a large ditch or canal from Center Plantation No. 2 (Figure 6-52). The rela-

tionship of these two sites is completely dependent on the age of the drainage canal in between them; if the canal is not as old as the sites, then the possibility remains that the two sites are a single entity. The presence of several large trees on the edge of this feature suggests that it may be contemporaneous with these sites. Center Plantation No. 3 occupies the crest of the eastern natural levee of Bayou Maringouin on Commerce soils.

Center Plantation No. 3 was delineated with two crossing transects of shovel tests spaced at 30 m intervals. Six of these tests proved positive for cultural materials, almost exclusively brick fragments; ST 1 produced a piece of glass and a corroded iron fragment, while ST 7 yielded a single piece of glass. All finds were from the plowzone. Natural stratigraphy was otherwise limited to a 15 cm-deep brown



Table 6-36. Artifacts from the Full Crew Site (16IV95).

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #4 (30-45cm)	Shovel Test #4 (0-20cm)	TOTAL
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>				
Baytown Plain				
<i>var. unspecified</i>	5			5
Plaquemine Brushed				
<i>var. Plaquemine</i>	1			1
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>				
Refined Earthenware				
Whiteware				
Decalcomania				
polychrome	1			1
Molded				
undecorated	1			1
Undecorated				
undecorated	3			3
Ironstone				
Transfer-printed				
blue	1			1
Hand-painted				
green	1			1
Undecorated				
Undecorated	2			2
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware				
Decalcomania				
polychrome	2			2
Repoussé				
undecorated	4			4
Repousse and Painted				
green	1			1
Molded				
undecorated	1			1
Undecorated				
undecorated	6			6
American Majolica				
Undecorated				
Yellow	1			1
Fiestaware				
Undecorated				
Blue	2			2
Yellow	1			1
Pink	1			1
Concentric Circle				
Golden yellow	1			1
Greenware				
Undecorated				
Tile	1			1
Stoneware				
Albany (Int.), Albany (ext.)				
Undecorated				
undecorated	1			1
Albany (Int.), Bristol (ext.)				
Undecorated				
undecorated	2			2
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)				
Undecorated				
undecorated	1			1

(continued)

Table 6-36. Concluded.

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #4 (30-45cm)	Shovel Test #4 (0-20cm)	TOTAL
Porcelain				
Hard Paste				
Transfer-printed (overglaze)				
blue	1			1
Hand-painted				
monochrome	1			1
Decalcomania				
polychrome	1			1
Molded				
undecorated	1			1
Undecorated				
undecorated	1			1
Semi-Porcelain				
Insulator	1			1
Light Fixture	1			1
unidentified	1			1
GLASS				
Molded				
Unidentified Mold Type				
Lipping Tooled				
clear purple	1			1
Machine Made				
Unidentified Mold Type				
Owens machine made				
clear	2			2
clear yellow	1			1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique				
brown	4			4
clear	13		1	14
clear green	2			2
clear purple	5			5
cobalt blue	4			4
milk (green)	2			2
milk (white)	14			14
Window Glass				
clear green	1			1
METAL				
Iron				
nail				
type 1-12		1		1
Aluminum				
cap	1			1
token	1			1
unidentified				
Aluminum/zinc				
rim				
unidentified	1			1
STONE				
Construction Material				
Asbestos				
Tile	1			1
MORTAR				
lime	1			1
SYNTHETIC PRODUCT				
Synthetic				
Plastic				
eyepiece	1			1
Rubber				
button	1			1
shoe sole	2			2
Asphalt				
floor tile	2			2
TOTAL	108	1	1	110

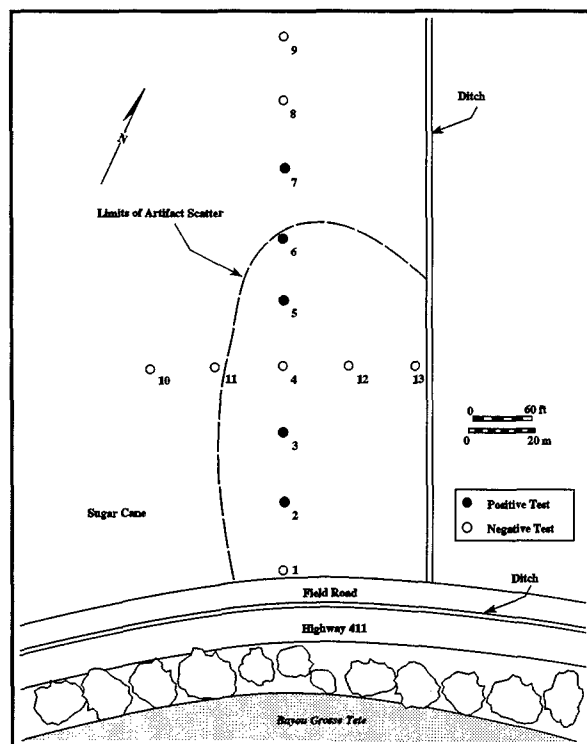


Figure 6-48. Sketch map of the Soggy Bottom site (16IV96).

to dark brown (10YR4/3) silt loam plowzone over a yellowish brown (10YR5/4) silt loam subsoil.

The artifacts from Center Plantation No. 3 were dominated by historic ceramics, including common whiteware, ivory- and dark ivory-tinted whiteware, ironstone, and stoneware (Table 6-39). Several sherds of common whiteware were decorated with annular (banded) patterns dating to the mid-1800's. Glass collected from the site included molded and machine-made examples, as well as olive amber, clear purple, and clear yellow glass unidentified as to manufacturing technique. While the annular (banded) ceramics, molded glass and olive amber glass evince an occupation from the middle of the 1800's, the presence of ivory- and dark-ivory tinted whitewares, decalcomania and repoussé decorated wares, and clear yellow glass suggest an end date sometime in the 1940's.

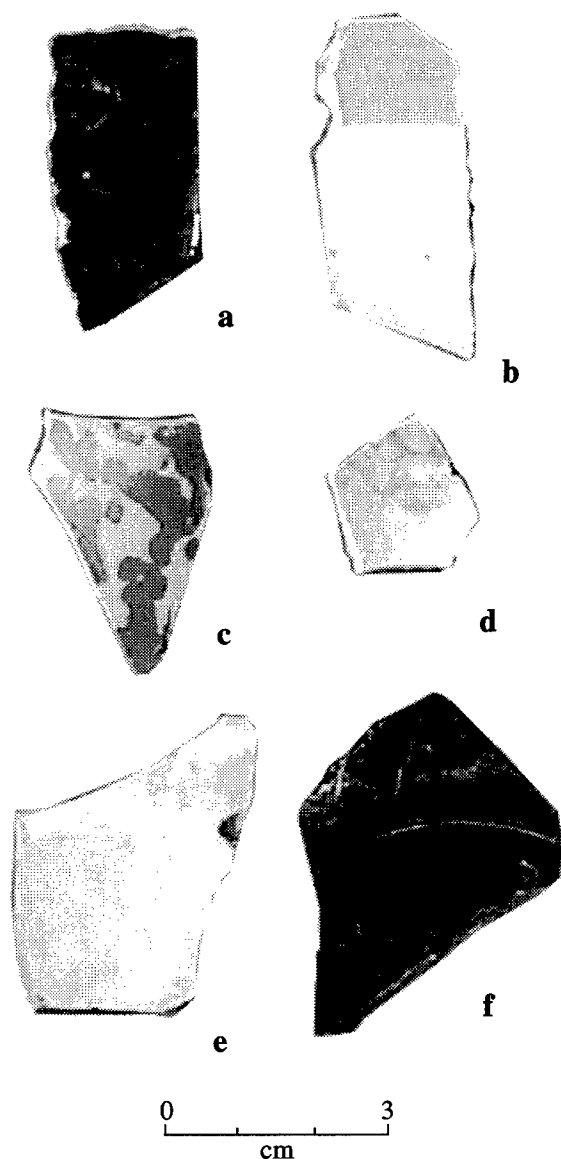
#### Comments and Recommendations

Center Plantation No. 3 is a scatter of mid-nineteenth to early-twentieth century artifacts

Table 6-37. Artifacts from the Soggy Bottom Site (16IV96).

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #3	Shovel Test #4	Shovel Test #6	Shovel Test #7	TOTAL
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>						
Semi-Refined Earthenware						
Refined Earthenware						
Whiteware						
Glazed						
blue	1					1
Transfer-printed						
green	1					1
Transfer-printed and repous						
green	1					1
Hand-painted						
monochrome	1					1
Undecorated						
undecorated	9					9
Ironstone						
Undecorated						
Undecorated	1					1
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware						
Decalcomania						
polychrome	1					1
polychrome and fugitive	1					1
Gilt?						
undecorated	1					1
Repoussé						
undecorated	1					1
Undecorated						
undecorated	3	1				4
Stoneware						
Albany (Int.), Albany (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated	1					1
Albany (Int.), Bristol (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated	1					1
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)						
Blue on white						
undecorated	2					2
Unid						
blue	1					1
Undecorated						
undecorated	1					1
Unglazed (int.), Salt (ext.)						
Undecorated						
undecorated	1					1
Porcelain						
Bisque						
Undecorated	1					1
Hard Paste						
Hand-painted						
polychrome	1					1
Decalcomania						
monochrome	1					1
Undecorated						
undecorated	2					2
Semi-Porcelain						
Undecorated						
undecorated	2					2
<b>GLASS</b>						
Machine made						
Unidentified mold type						
Owens machine						
clear	1					1
brown	1					1
Unidentified Manufacturing techniq						
brown	1					1
clear	2			1	1	4
clear green	1	1				2
clear purple	5					5
clear blue	2					2
milky (green)	1					1
milky (white)	9				1	10
modern green	2					2
<b>METAL</b>						
Iron						
unidentified				1		1
<b>STONE</b>						
Marble						
flat	1					1
<b>SYNTHETIC PRODUCT</b>						
Synthetic						
Rubber						
unidentified	1					1
Plastic						
Button			1			1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>69</b>

probably representative of a tenant occupation. No cultural deposits were noted at Center Plantation No. 3. This site is an unlikely candidate for producing intact features, and no further work is recommended.



**Figure 6-49.** Historic material recovered from the Soggy Bottom site (16IV96). a) Dark blue painted Bristol-slipped stoneware; b) Machine-painted (blue) whiteware; c) Gilt ivory-tinted whiteware; d-e) Decalcomania-decorated ivory-tinted whiteware; f) Clear brown glass bottle base, with Owens machine scar.

#### **16IV99 Center Plantation No. 4**

##### ***Location and Description***

Ground exposure at the Center Plantation No. 4 site was difficult to come by, limiting our interpre-

tation of site size (Figure 6-53). As exposed, the site measures 60 by 100 m, sitting about 100 m south of 16IV98 and sharing the same Commerce soils of the Bayou Maringouin natural levee with it. This site was tested with two crossing transects of shovel tests excavated at 20 m intervals. Three tests (STs 3, 5, and 12) were positive for cultural material, largely brick. No intact subsurface deposits were noted. Stratigraphy at the site was composed of a dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) silt loam plowzone from 0 to 15 cm below surface, over a yellowish brown (10YR5/4) silt loam subsoil.

Historic ceramics from the site include early whiteware, common whiteware, ivory- and dark ivory-tinted whiteware, ironstone and stoneware (Table 6-40). Although early whiteware can date from antebellum times, the sherd is undecorated and therefore throws little light on the situation. Repoussé-decorated and ivory-tinted whitewares date from about 1900 to circa 1930, while dark ivory-tinted whiteware dates between 1930 and 1950 (Moir 1987:102). A single shard of glass could be classified as molded with a lipping-tool finish, but most shards were unidentifiable as to manufacturing technique. Clear purple and clear yellow glass date from 1880 to 1915 and from 1915 to circa 1930, respectively (Toulouse 1972). A brass Louisiana Button was also recovered from surface collections, dating from 1850 to 1880 (Figure 6-54). This button may have been salvaged for reuse after the Civil war, or could have belonged to a veteran or Louisiana Guard member. The assemblage suggests a continuous historic occupation from at least 1870 to 1950, and possibly earlier.

##### ***Comments and Recommendations***

Like other sites on Center Plantation property, this scatter appears to represent a mid- or late-nineteenth to early-twentieth century tenant occupation. No subsurface cultural deposits were noted at Center Plantation No. 4, and no further testing is recommended.

#### **16IV100 Center Plantation No. 5**

##### ***Location and Description***

The Center Plantation No. 5 site offered somewhat better exposure of surface remains than the previous site. Just under 100 m south of Center Plantation No. 4, 16IV100 is a small (40 by 40 m) scatter of historic artifacts collected from the Commerce soils of the eastern natural levee of Bayou Maringouin

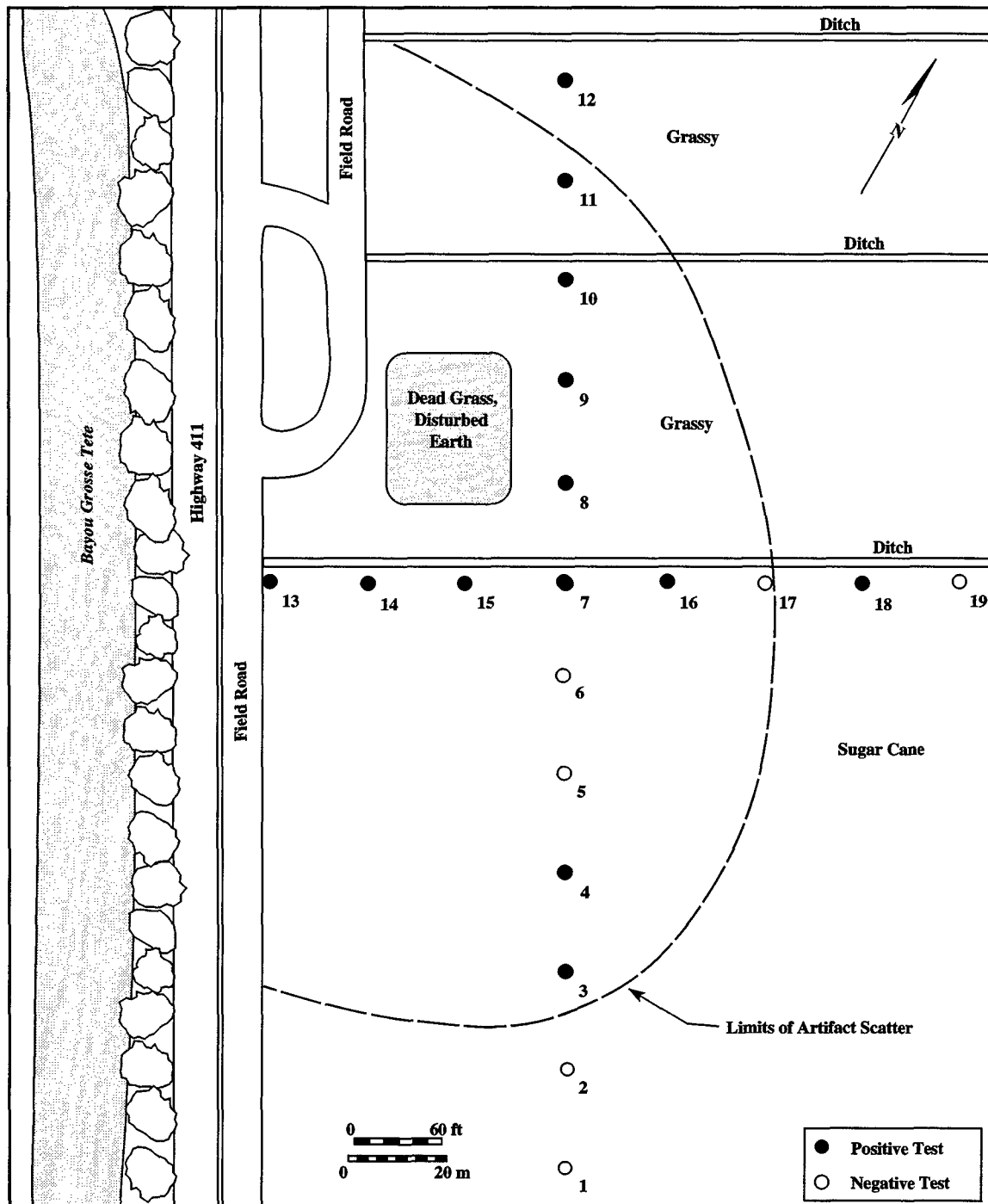


Figure 6-50. Sketch map of the Big Brown One site (16IV97).

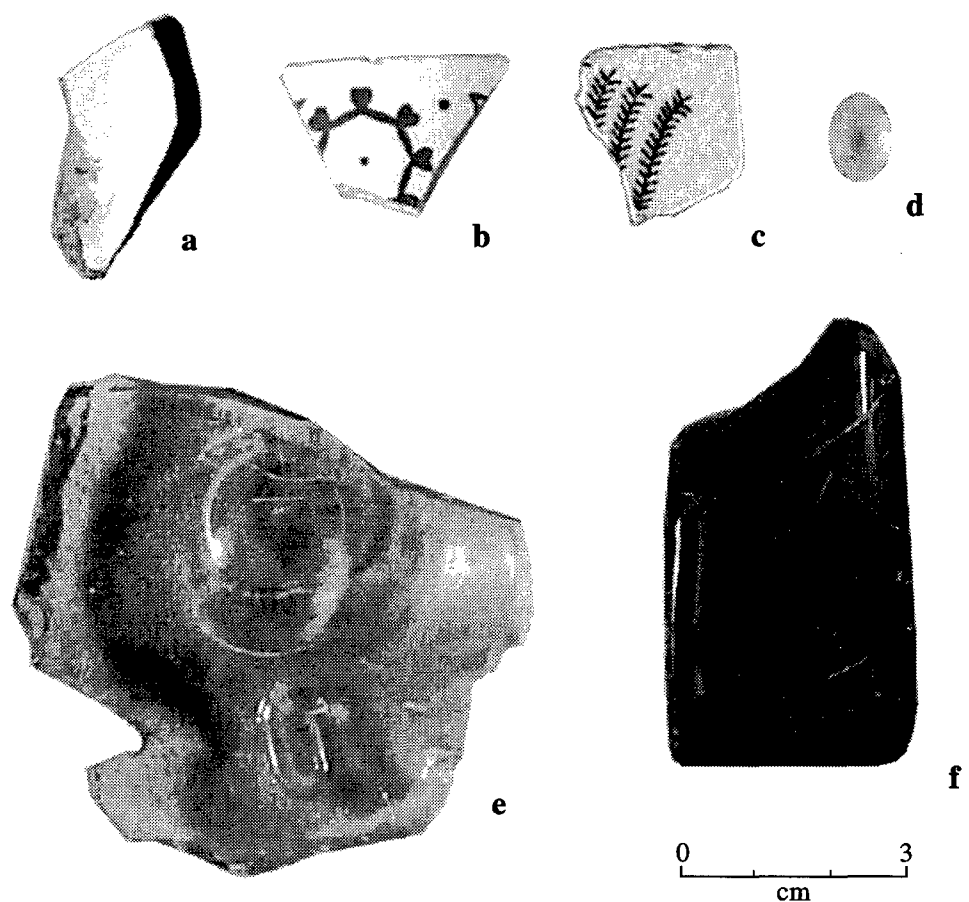
(Figure 6-55). Delineation of the sites was accomplished with two crossing transects of shovel tests spaced at 20 m intervals. Shovel Test 7 produced the only cultural material, a handful of small brick fragments from plowzone contexts. Shovel test profiles showed a 15 cm-thick brown to dark brown (10YR4/

3) silt loam plowzone lying over a yellowish brown (10YR5/4) silt loam subsoil.

The collection from Center Plantation No. 5 represents an fairly typical assemblage, for the area, of late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century material.

Table 6-38. Artifacts from The Big Brown One Site (16IV97).

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #7	Shovel Test #8	Shovel Test #9	Shovel Test #10	Shovel Test #12	TOTAL
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>							
Semi-Refined Earthenware							
Redware							
Slip White and Lead (Int.), Lead (ext.) undecorated	1						1
Refined Earthenware							
Whiteware							
Transfer-printed black			1				1
Decalcomania green and fugitive	2						2
Undecorated undecorated	9				2		11
Ironstone							
Undecorated	1						1
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware							
Machine stamped							
Green	1						1
Transfer-printed blue	1						1
Repoussé undecorated	4	1					5
Undecorated undecorated	7						7
Unidentified Refined Earthenware							
Repoussé	1						1
Undecorated undecorated					1		1
Stoneware							
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)							
Blue on white undecorated	2						2
Undecorated undecorated	2						2
Salt (Int.), salt (ext.) Undecorated		1					1
Porcelain							
Hard Paste							
Decalcomania monochrome	1						1
fugitive and blue	1						1
Undecorated undecorated	1						1
Semi-Porcelain							
Insulator	1						1
<b>GLASS</b>							
Machine Made							
Unidentified Mold Type							
Owens machine made							
brown	1						1
Valve machine clear green	1						1
Unidentified machine type cobalt blue	1						1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique							
brown	4				1		5
clear	6	2	5	3	5		21
clear blue	1		1	1			3
clear yellow				1			1
cobalt blue	1		1				2
milk (white)	12					1	13
modern green	1		1				2
olive	1	1					2
Window Glass							
clear green				1			1
Glass							
cabochon/stone light blue	1						1
<b>FAUNA</b>							
Vertebrate							
Non-human unidentified	1						1
<b>METAL</b>							
Iron							
button	1						1
nail							
type 11-12					1		1
unidentified		2		1			3
Steel							
knife handle						1	1
Aluminum							
unidentified	1						1
<b>SYNTHETIC PRODUCT</b>							
Synthetic							
Rubber							
unidentified					1		1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>104</b>



**Figure 6-51.** Historic material recovered from the Big Brown One site (16IV97). a) Lead-glazed (exterior), white slipped (interior) semi-refined redware; b) Machine-stamped, ivory-tinted whiteware; c) Transfer-printed ivory-tinted whiteware; d) Cut-glass "gemstone"; e) Valve machine-made, clear green glass bottle base; f) Owens machine-made, clear brown glass bottle (Owens-Illinois Glass Co., 1938).

Common whiteware, ironstone, stoneware, and ivory-tinted whiteware were collected, some sherds bearing repoussé decoration dating roughly between 1900 and 1930 (Table 6-41). Clear and yellow machine-made glass, as well as depression glass and clear purple glass unidentified as to manufacture were also collected, dating from the late-nineteenth century to about 1940.

#### **Comments and Recommendations**

Center Plantation No. 5 is a small late-nineteenth to early-twentieth century scatter, probably representative of a tenant occupation. No subsurface deposits were noted at the site. It is unlikely that 16IV100

harbors intact features, and it is not recommended for further investigation.

#### **16PC66 Black Stump**

##### **Location and Description**

The first site found by the survey in Pointe Coupee Parish is Black Stump, a small (50 by 60 m) historic scatter on the crest of the eastern natural levee of Bayou Grosse Tete, about 500 m southeast of the Valverde School (Figure 6-56). The soils are Commerce series loams currently in cultivation for soybeans, but at the time of the survey the field was in grass, and the surface collection was scanty. The

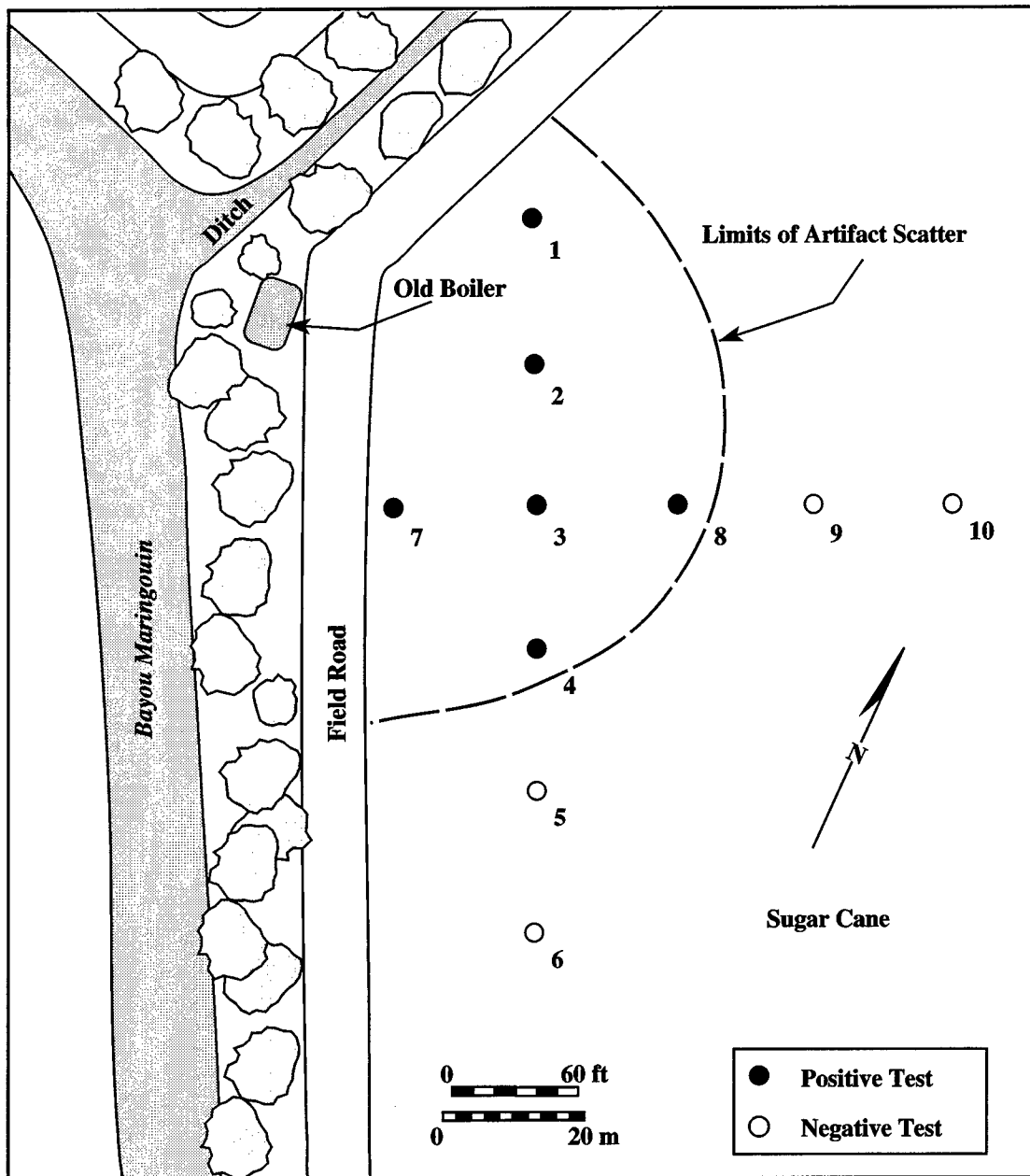


Figure 6-52. Sketch map of the Center Plantation No. 3 site (16IV98).

1969 Fordoche, LA 7.5' quadrangle shows a structure at this location, but no sign of it remains today apart from the scatter.

Black Stump was delineated with two crossing transects of shovel tests excavated at 20 m intervals. Only two tests produced cultural material; ST 2 yielded a piece of container glass, a wire nail, and a few brick fragments, and a single piece of container glass was collected from ST 5 (Table 6-42). No finds were

made below the plowzone. Stratigraphy consisted of a 15 cm-thick brown to dark brown (10YR4/3) silt loam plowzone lying over a yellowish brown (10YR5/4) silt loam subsoil.

#### *Comments and Recommendations*

The Black Stump site is a small scatter of twentieth century artifacts, probably representing a briefly occupied structure or a refuse disposal area. A structure



Table 6-39. Artifacts from the Center Plantation No. 3 Site (16IV98).

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #1	Shovel Test #7	TOTAL
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>				
Refined Earthenware				
Whiteware				
Transfer-printed				
flow blue (revival)	1			1
blue (revival)	1			1
brown	1			1
Annular (banded)				
monochrome	2			2
Undecorated				
undecorated	13			13
Ironstone				
Undecorated				
Undecorated	1			1
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware				
Molded				
undecorated	2			2
Decalcomania				
fugitive nad polychrome	1			1
Undecorated				
undecorated	3			3
Dark Ivory-tinted whiteware				
Decalcomania				
fugitive	1			1
Undecorated				
undecorated	3			3
Unidentified Refined Earthenware				
Transfer-printed				
blue (revival)	1			1
Glazed				
blue	2			2
Stoneware				
Albany (Int.), Salt (ext.)				
Undecorated				
undecorated	3			3
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)				
Undecorated				
undecorated	1			1
Salt (Ext.)				
Undecorated				
undecorated	2			2
Slip (Int.), salt (ext.)				
Undecorated				
undecorated	3			3
Unglazed (Int.), Bristol (ext.)				
Undecorated				
undecorated	1			1
Unglazed (int.), Salt (ext.)				
Undecorated				
undecorated	1			1
Porcelain				
Hard Paste				
Painted				
fugitive	1			1
Undecorated				
undecorated	3			3
Semi-Porcelain				
Decalcomania				
polychrome and fugitive	1			1

(continued)

Table 6-39. Concluded.

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #1	Shovel Test #7	TOTAL
<b>GLASS</b>				
Molded				
Unidentified Mold Type				
Lipping Tooled				
brown	1			1
clear	1			1
clear blue	1			1
clear yellow	1			1
Machine Made				
Unidentified Mold Type				
Unidentified machine type				
clear yellow	1			1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique				
brown	2	1		3
clear	2			2
clear blue	3			3
clear green	1			1
clear purple	4			4
cobalt blue	2			2
emerald	1			1
light blue			1	1
milk (white)	10			10
olive amber	1			1
Glass				
figurine				
painted				
brown	1			1
marble				
clear blue, milk (white), orange, light brown	1			1
blue, milk (white)	1			1
<b>FLORA</b>				
Charcoal	4			4
<b>STONE</b>				
Coal	1			1
<b>BRICK</b>				
handmade				
unglazed	5			5
unidentified				
unidentified	1			1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>95</b>

was recorded here in 1969, but no artifacts are available that will date occupation here any earlier than this. The site yielded no features or cultural strata below the plowzone, and further work is not believed necessary here.

#### 16PC67 Woodhenge

##### *Location and Description*

Woodhenge lies about 350 m north/northwest of the Black Stump site in the Commerce silt loam

deposits of the eastern natural levee of Bayou Grosse Tete (Figure 6-57). The site takes its name from the tractor shed supports which stand at the southern end of the site. Woodhenge is a very large (140 by 60 m) prehistoric occupation in cultivated fields (sugarcane and soybeans), with a minor historic component, mostly brick fragments, probably associated with the aforementioned shed and the house just south of the site. Sherd density in some areas is relatively high at the site, especially on the levee crest and front slope of the natural levee, where a half dozen sherds per square meter was not uncommon.

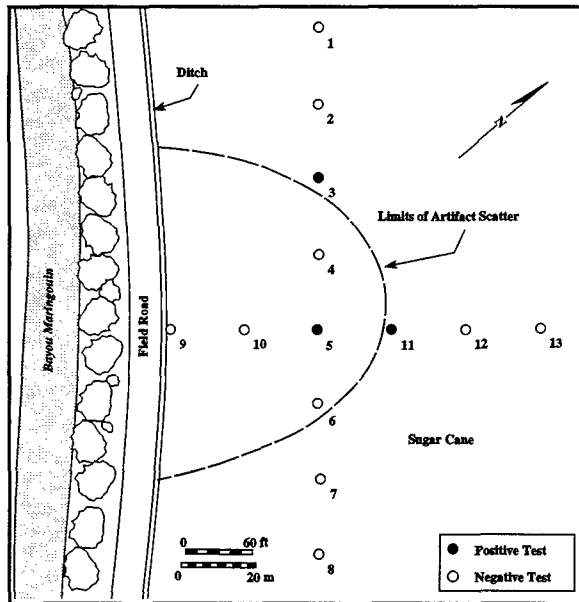


Figure 6-53. Sketch map of the Center Plantation No. 4 site (16IV99).



Figure 6-54. Louisiana Button (1850-1880), recovered from the Center Plantation No. 4 site (16IV99).

Woodhenge was delineated with two crossing transects of shovel tests spaced at 10 m intervals. Natural stratigraphy was surprisingly variable at the site, starting with a 15 cm-thick silt loam or a silty clay loam plowzone ranging in color from dark brown (10YR3/3) to yellowish brown (10YR5/4). This plowzone overlay a brown/dark brown (10YR4/3) to yellowish brown (10YR5/4) silt loam or silty clay loam subsoil which descended to the limits of excavation at 50 cm. Shovel Tests 17 and 18 yielded

Table 6-40. Artifacts from the Center Plantation No. 4 Site (16IV99).

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #3	TOTAL
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>			
Semi-Refined Earthenware			
Yellowware			
Annular (banded) brown	1		1
Refined Earthenware			
Early Whiteware undecorated	1		1
Whiteware undecorated	20		20
Ironstone			
Repoussé undecorated	1		1
Undecorated	6		6
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware			
Decalcomania monochrome	1		1
Undecorated	3		3
Dark Ivory-tinted undecorated	2		2
Stoneware			
Albany (Int.), Bristol (ext.) undecorated	2		2
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.) Blue on white undecorated	2		2
Undecorated	1		1
Unglazed (int.), Salt (ext.) undecorated	1		1
Porcelain			
Bisque undecorated	1		1
Hard Paste			
Transfer-printed (overglaze) green	1		1
Decalcomania fugitive	2		2
Molded undecorated		1	1
Undecorated	4		4
Button undecorated	1		1
Semi-Porcelain			
Molded undecorated	1		1
<b>GLASS</b>			
Molded			
Unidentified Mold Type			
Lipping Tooled clear purple	1		1
Unidentified Manufacturing techniq			
clear	4		4
clear green	1		1
clear purple	7		7
clear yellow	1		1
cobalt blue	2		2
light blue	1		1
milk (white)	18		18
<b>METAL</b>			
Brass			
"Louisiana Button"	2		2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>89</b>

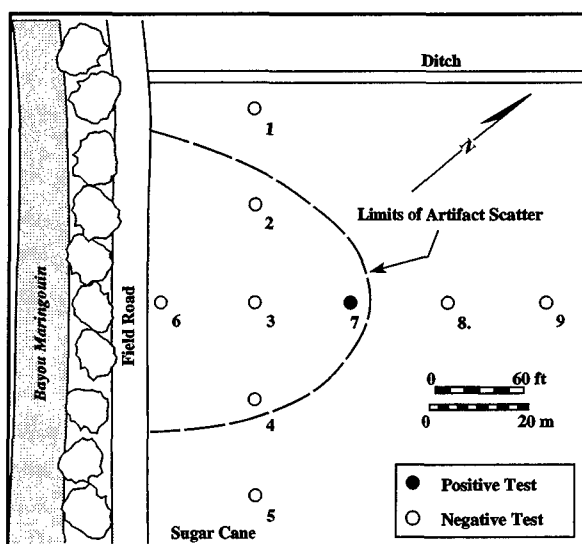


Figure 6-55. Sketch map of the Center Plantation No. 5 site (16IV100).

moderate amounts of charcoal in the plowzone, while ST 19 produced moderate charcoal throughout the test. A single historic sherd came from the plowzone of ST 13, and an aboriginal sherd crumb was found in the plowzone of ST 4. Tests 4 through 7 produced deposits of charcoal and fired clay in association with uncarbonized wood and an occasional piece of faunal material. Although no artifacts were found to tie these deposits in with a particular component, the presence of uncarbonized wood strongly suggests that these are relatively recent features.

The Woodhenge site produced the largest collection of aboriginal artifacts from the sample survey (Table 6-43 and Figure 6-58). A component dating to the early to middle phases of the Coles Creek period (A.D. 700 to 1000) is suggested by a single sherd of Coles Creek Incised, *var. Athanasio*. The first solidly represented occupation at the site is a late Coles Creek component (A.D. 1000 to 1200), represented by sherds of Coles Creek Incised, *var. Hardy*, Harrison Bayou Incised, *var. Bunkie*, and examples of *Manchac* and *Plaquemine*. Alternatively, the sherds of *Manchac*, *Plaquemine*, and *Hardy* may belong to an early to middle Mississippi period (A.D. 1200 to 1450) period component, also represented by sherds of *Addis*, *Anna* Incised, *var. Australia*, and *Leland* Incised, *var. Foster*. The single example of *Barataria* Incised probably dates to the late Mississippi (A.D. 1450 to 1650) period. Flakes, shatter, and a core fragment were

Table 6-41. Artifacts from the Center Plantation No. 5 Site (16IV100).

	Surface Collection
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>	
Semi-Refined Earthenware	
Yellowware	
Undecorated	
Undecorated	1
Refined Earthenware	
Whiteware	
Repoussé	
Undecorated	4
undecorated	20
Ironstone	
Molded	
undecorated	2
Undecorated	
Undecorated	11
Ivory-Tinted Whiteware	
Decalcomania	
fugitive	1
monochrome and fugitive	1
Undecorated	
undecorated	2
Unidentified Refined Earthenware	
Undecorated	
Undecorated	1
Stoneware	
Albany (Int.), Albany (ext.)	
Undecorated	
undecorated	1
Albany (Int.), Salt (ext.)	
Undecorated	
undecorated	1
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)	
Blue on white	
undecorated	3
Blue on white and molded	
undecorated	2
Porcelain	
Hard Paste	
Undecorated	
undecorated	1
Doll	
undecorated	1
Button	
undecorated	2
Semi-Porcelain	
Figurine?	1
Undecorate	
undecorated	2
<b>GLASS</b>	
Machine Made	
Unidentified Mold Type	
Unidentified machine type	
clear	1
clear yellow	1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique	
clear	1
clear purple	6
clear pink	1
cobalt blue	1
milk (white)	5
olive	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>76</b>

also recovered, made from tan cobble chert. Historic artifacts were not common, and consisted largely of uncollected brick and mortar. A single piece of turquoise-colored stoneware from ST 13 provides a date from the middle decades of the twentieth century.

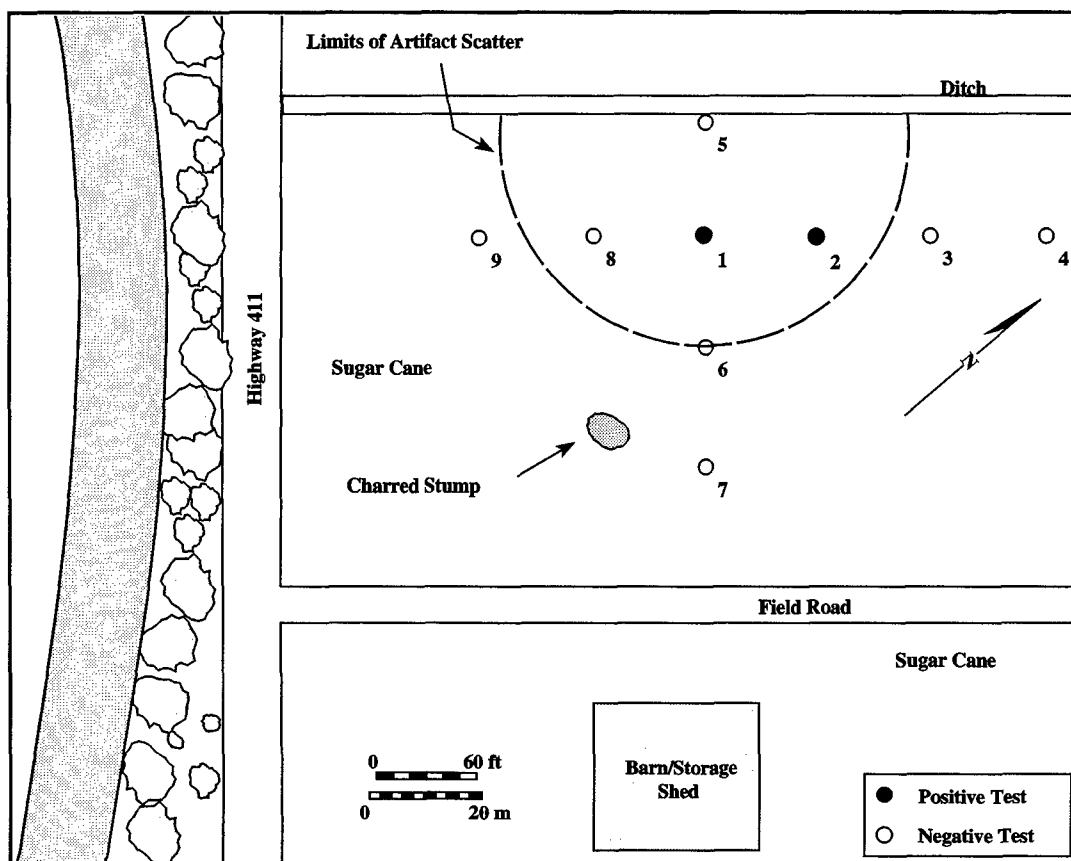


Figure 6-56. Sketch map of the Black Stump site (16PC66).

Table 6-42. Artifacts from the Black Stump Site (16PC66).

	Shovel Test #5
<b>GLASS</b>	
Unidentified Manufacturing technique	
brown	1
clear	1

#### Comments and Recommendations

Woodhenge is a large Plaquemine occupation (A.D. 1200 to 1650), possibly representing a component of the regional settlement pattern which includes the Skeeter Bayou and Gay Place No. 2 sites. The size and artifact density of these sites appears to differentiate them quite distinctly from most of the other aboriginal scatters found in this survey on

Bayous Grosse Tete and Maringouin, such as the West Oaks No. 5, Sunnyside No. 3, and Full Crew sites. While no subsurface deposits dating to the Mississippi period were noted, the density of prehistoric materials on the front slope of the natural levee suggests that such features may still exist. Further investigation is therefore recommended at this site to assess National Register eligibility.

#### 16PC68 Beauvais

##### Location and Description

The Beauvais site is a large (60 by 100 m) historic scatter on the southern natural levee of Bayou Grosse Tete, about 2100 m east/southeast of the bridge at Frisco, LA. The site lies in cultivated (corn) fields on Commerce silt loams, northwest of the intersection of Gremillion Road and a small gravel access road (Figure 6-59). A large holding tank for an oil well occupies much of the west end of the site.

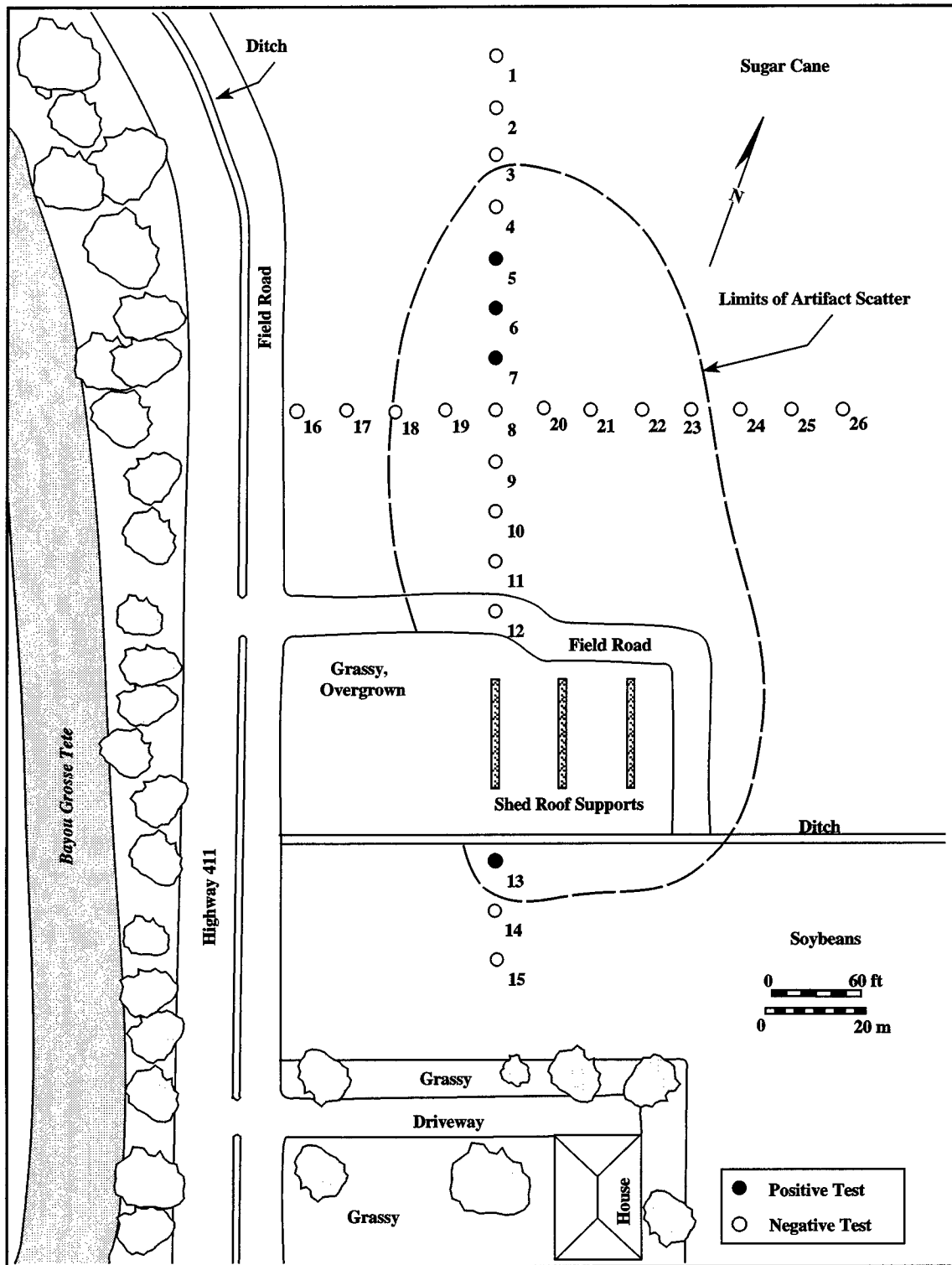


Figure 6-57. Sketch map of the Woodhenge site (16PC67).

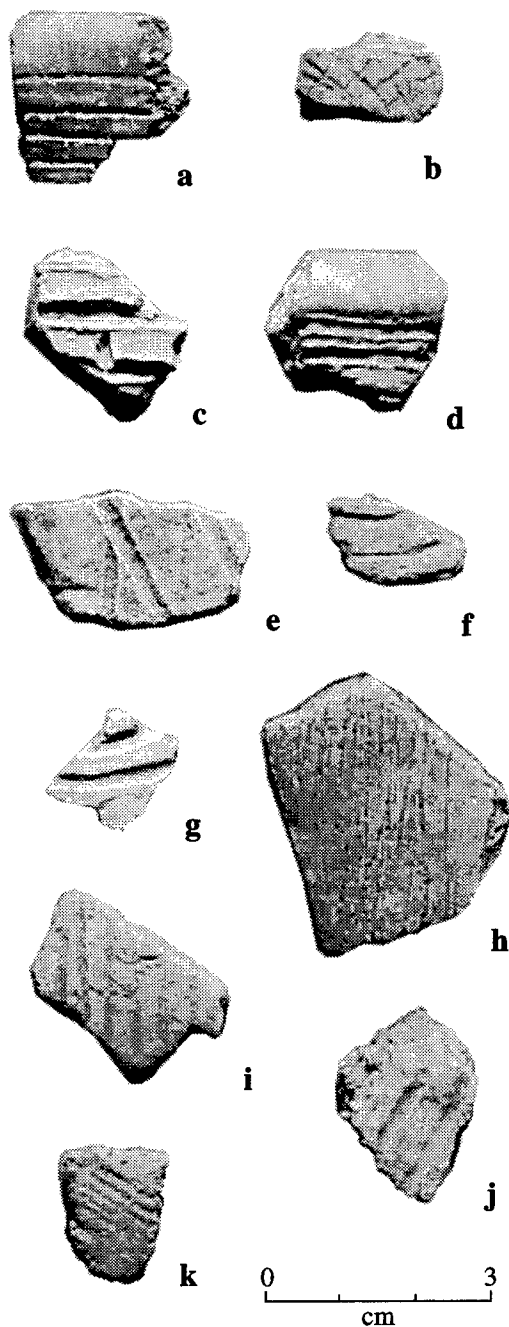
Table 6-43. Artifacts from the Woodhenge Site (16PC67).

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #4	Shovel Test #13	TOTAL
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>				
Baytown Plain				
<i>var. Addis</i>	14			14
<i>var. unspecified</i>	106	1		107
Anna Incised				
<i>var. Australia</i>	1			1
Barataria Incised				
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1			1
Coles Creek Incised				
<i>var. Athanasio</i>	1			1
<i>var. Hardy</i>	2			2
Harrison Bayou Incised				
<i>var. Bunkie</i>	1			1
Leland Incised				
<i>var. Foster</i>	3			3
Mazique Incised				
<i>var. Manchac</i>	6			6
Plaquemine Brushed				
<i>var. Plaquemine</i>	3			3
Unidentified Incised and Punctated on Baytown Plain				
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1			1
<b>PREHISTORIC LITHICS</b>				
Chipped Stone				
Chert				
Core fragment	1			1
Flake	2			2
Shatter	1			1
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>				
Stoneware				
Glazed				
Turquoise			1	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>144</b>

Beauvais was tested with two crossing transects of shovel tests excavated at 20 m intervals. Although four of these tests produced historic materials, such as brick, glass, and a nail, none showed any evidence of cultural strata below the plowzone. Stratigraphy was uniform across the site; an 18 cm-thick very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) silty clay loam plowzone covering a brown to dark brown (10YR4/3) silty clay loam subsoil.

The Beauvais site collection is dominated by historic ceramics, including early whiteware, common whiteware, ironstone, and stoneware (Table 6-44 and Figure 6-60). Much of the early whiteware was decorated, and motifs included blue-edged and annular (banded) sherds dating from 1828 to 1860 (Hunter and Miller 1994:434; Price 1982:14),

and stamped sherds dating from 1845 to 1895 (Price 1982:20). A manufacturer's mark for the C. C. Thompson Pottery Co. of East Liverpool, Ohio was also collected, manufactured between 1890 and circa 1910 (Kovel and Kovel 1986:6). Glass from the site included molded glass and olive, olive amber, and clear purple glass unidentified as to manufacturing technique. Two glass manufacturer's marks were collected. The first was for the Millville Glass and Manufacturing Co. of Millville, New Jersey, used from 1869 - 1887 and later (Toulouse 1972:361), and the second was made by the Illinois Glass Co. between 1900 and 1916 (Toulouse 1972:264). Due to the absence of machine-made vessel glass and ivory-tinted whitewares, the site was probably not occupied past 1905. Overall, a continuous occupation is suggested ranging between 1840 and 1905.



**Figure 6-58.** Prehistoric material recovered from the Woodhenge site (16PC67). a) Anna Incised, *var. Australia*; b) Barataria Incised, *var. unspecified*; c) Coles Creek Incised, *var. Athanasio*; d) Coles Creek Incised, *var. Hardy*; e) Harrison Bayou Incised, *var. Bunkie*; f-g) Leland Incised, *var. Foster*; h-j) Mazique Incised, *var. Manchac*; k) Plaquemine Brushed, *var. Plaquemine*.

### Comments and Recommendations

The Beauvais site is a large scatter of mid- to late-nineteenth century material, probably representing a tenant occupation or small farmstead. No subsurface features were noted at the site, and it is not recommended for further testing.

### 16PC69 Golden Gate

#### Location and Description

Golden Gate is a very sparse scatter of historic materials approximately 220 m west/northwest of the Beauvais site (16IV68), on the same natural levee feature of the south side of Bayou Grosse Tete (Figure 6-61). The site measures 60 by 60 m, and lies in cultivated fields of Commerce soils. Delineation of the site was accomplished by shovel testing at 20 m intervals in two crossing transects. Stratigraphy was comprised of a 16 cm-thick brown to dark brown (10YR4/3) silty clay loam subsoil covered by a very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) silty clay loam plowzone. No artifacts were recovered from these shovel tests, and no cultural stratigraphy was recorded.

The collection of artifacts from Golden Gate is very small, but shows contemporaneity with the Beauvais site. Ceramics from the site include buffware, pearlware, early whiteware, common whiteware, stoneware, yellowware, redware, and a single sherd of fiestaware. (Table 6-45). Glass from the site included blown vessel glass and olive and clear purple vessel glass of unidentified manufacture. A single piece of machine-made vessel glass with an Owens Illinois Glass Co. mark is probably roughly contemporary with the sherd of fiestaware, indicating at least minor activity, possibly disposal, at the site in the middle decades of the twentieth century. The majority of activity at Golden Gate, however, appears to have taken place between 1840 and 1890.

### Comments and Recommendations

Golden Gate is a mid- to late-nineteenth century site, contemporary with Beauvais. The scatter is very sparse, and may simply be the result of casual disposal activities. Alternatively, much of the site may underlie Gremillion Road. No further work is recommended for this site.



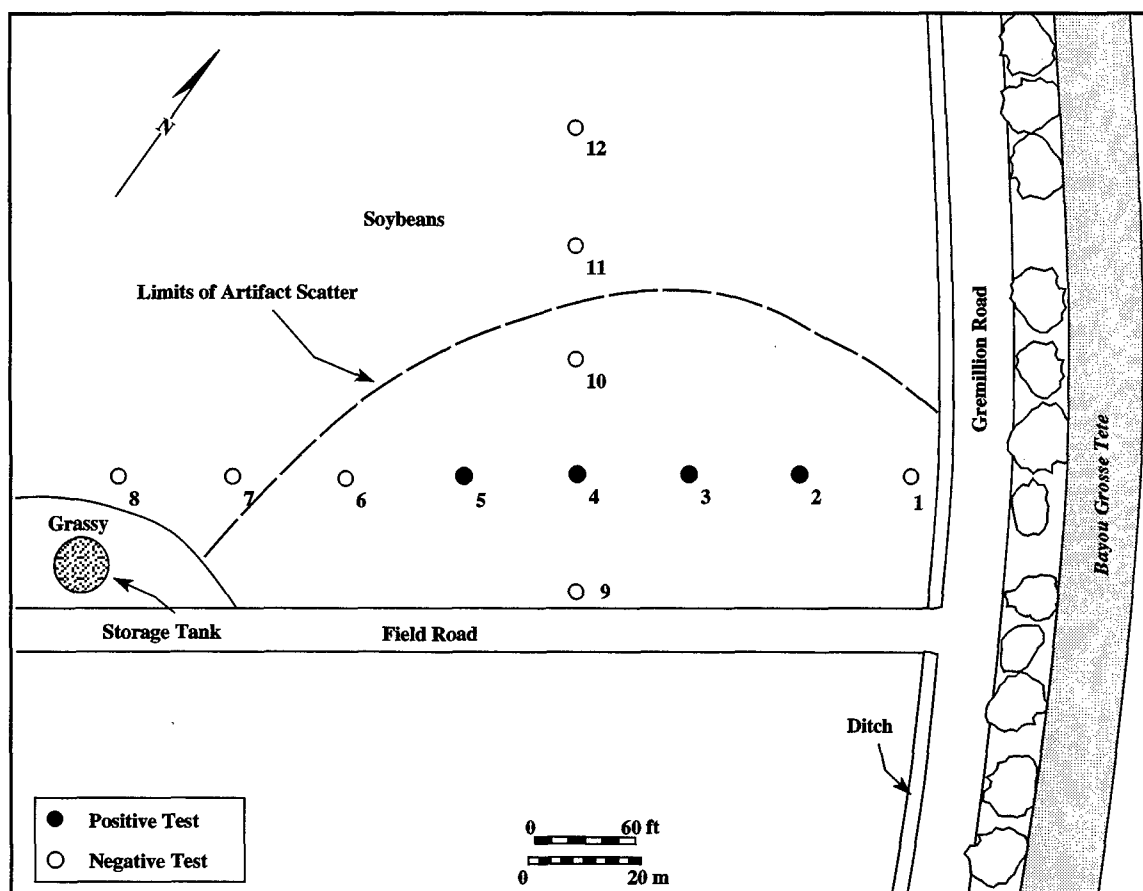


Figure 6-59. Sketch map of the Beauvais site (16PC68).

### 16PC70 Alcatraz

#### Location and Description

Alcatraz is a prehistoric site located just 90 m north of the Golden Gate site, sharing the same southern natural levee soils (Commerce series) as the other sites recorded by this survey near Frisco (16PC68 to 16PC72). The surface expression of the Alcatraz site is extremely small; it measures 10 by 5 meters, oriented northeast to southwest, and consists entirely of prehistoric sherds largely concentrated at the center of the scatter (Figure 6-62). Given that the concentration could indicate the presence of features, the decision was made to delineate the site at 5 m intervals instead of the more standard 20.

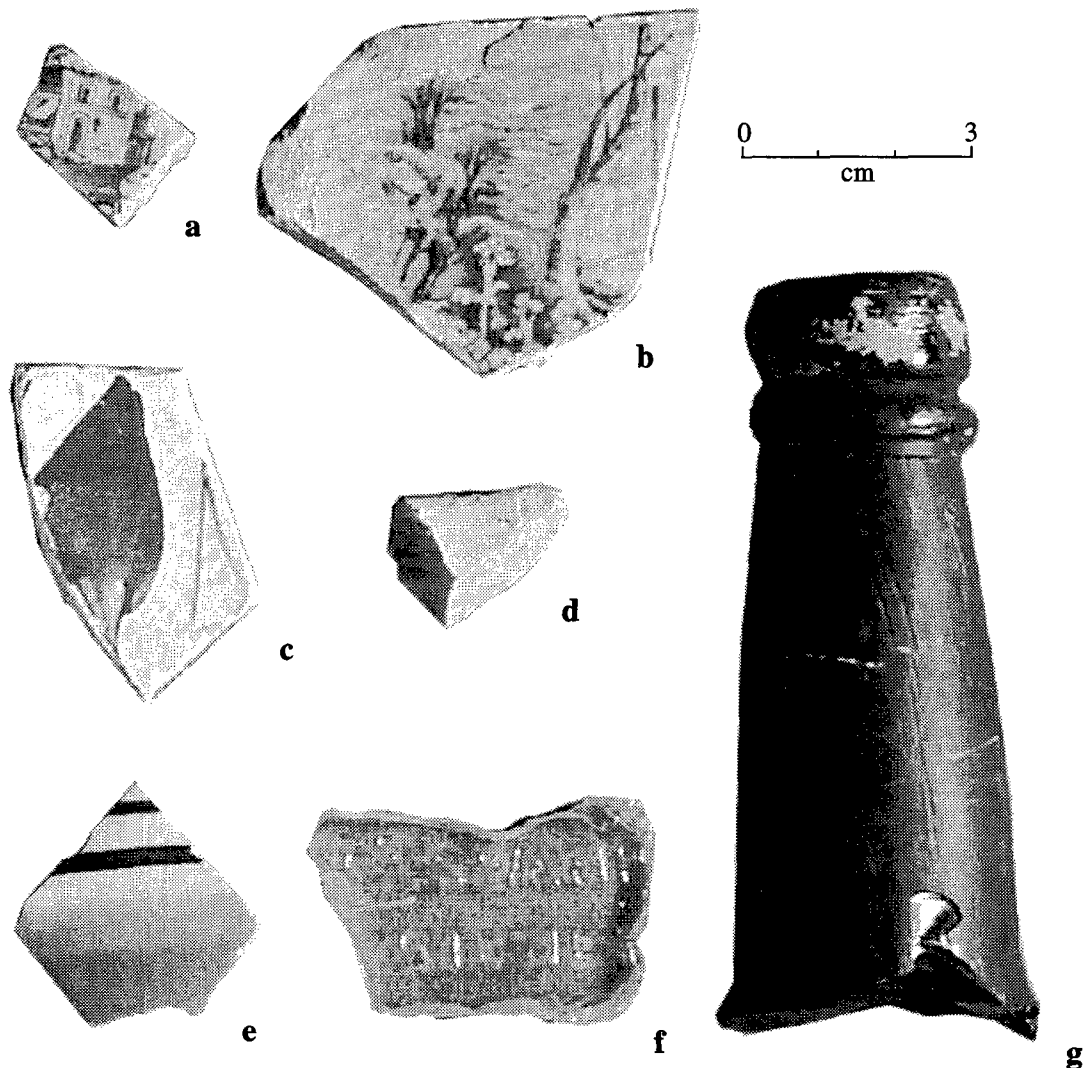
The stratigraphy in most tests consisted of a 15 cm-deep dark brown (10YR3/3) silty clay plowzone over a brown to dark brown (10YR4/2) silty clay subsoil. Few tests produced cultural material. However,

STs 5, 8, 9, and 10 revealed a horizon of very dark gray (10YR3/1) to dark gray (10YR4/1) silty clay with moderately large quantities of charcoal and baked clay between 12 and 30 cm below surface, just below the plowzone. Prehistoric sherds were associated with this horizon in STs 9 and 10. In STs 8 and 10, this layer lay just underneath the plowzone. In STs 5 and 9, this horizon was buried beneath 6 to 15 centimeters of dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) silty clay which lay just beneath the plowzone. A second horizon of gray (10YR5/1) silty clay at the bottom of ST 9, from 42 to 60 cm below surface is also fairly rich in charcoal and burnt clay, and may represent an earlier occupation level. However, no cultural material was retrieved from this layer.

Two sherds of Mazique Incised, *var. Manchac* were recovered from Alcatraz (Table 6-46, Figure 6-63). Coupled with sherds of *Addis*, this allows a late Coles Creek (A.D. 1000 to 1200), or, more likely,

Table 6-44. Artifacts from the Beauvais Site (16PC68).

	Surface Shovel			Surface Shovel			
	Collection	Test #3	TOTAL	Collection	Test #3	TOTAL	
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>							
Coarse Earthenware				Porcelain			
Red Clay				Bisque			
Marble	1		1	Hand-painted			
Buffware				green	1	1	
Tin-glazed				Hard Paste			
green	1		1	Figurine?			
Semi-Refined Earthenware				undecorated	2	2	
Yellowware				Button			
Annular (banded)				Undecorated	1	1	
brown	1		1				
Undecorated				<b>GLASS</b>			
Undecorated	2		2	Molded			
Molded				Unidentified Mold Type			
Modern Rockingham	1		1	Reheated Lip			
Refined Earthenware				clear	1	1	
Pearlware/Early Whiteware				Lipping Tooled			
Undecorated				brown	2	2	
undecorated	5		5	clear	1	1	
Early Whiteware				clear blue	4	4	
Transfer-printed				clear green	2	2	
blue	1		1	clear purple	8	8	
green	1		1	olive amber	2	2	
Molded				Unidentified Manufacturing technique			
undecorated	1		1	Sand Pontil			
Edged (var. unscaloped)				Unidentified Lipping technique			
blue	1		1	olive amber	1	1	
Hand Painted				Unidentified Pontil			
red	1		1	Unidentified Lipping Techniqu			
Undecorated				olive	3	3	
undecorated	2		2	Unidentified Manufacturing technique			
Whiteware				brown	4	4	
Transfer-printed				clear	5	1	6
blue	3		3	clear blue	5		5
Annular (banded)				clear green	5		5
monochrome	3		3	clear purple	10		10
polychrome	6		6	cobalt blue	1		1
Edged (scaloped)				milk (white)	1		1
blue	1		1	olive	7	1	8
Edged (unscaloped)				olive amber	6		6
blue	2		2	Window Glass			
Edged (unidentified)				clear blue	1		1
blue	4		4	Glass			
Hand-painted and Spattered?				Reflective			
Black and red	1		1	mirror	1		1
Stamped and Hand-painted				<b>METAL</b>			
blue and green	1		1	Lead			
Unidentified				Unidentified	1		1
blue	1		1	Iron			
Undecorated				hoe?	1		1
undecorated	8		8	hook	1		1
Ironstone				<b>STONE</b>			
Molded				Construction Material			
undecorated	5		5	Asbestos			
Undecorated				tile	2		2
Undecorated	8		8	<b>SYNTHETIC MATERIAL</b>			
Stoneware				Linoleum			
Albany (Int.), Albany (ext.)				Floor tile	1		1
Undecorated				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>163</b>
undecorated	1		1				
Albany (Int.), Salt (ext.)							
Undecorated							
undecorated	5		5				
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)							
Blue on white							
undecorated	8		8				
Bristol (Int.), Ferr. (ext.)							
Undecorated							
undecorated	1		1				
Slip (Int.), slip (ext.)							
Undecorated							
undecorated	1		1				
Slip (Int.), salt (ext.)							
Undecorated							
undecorated	3		3				
Unglazed (int.), Salt (ext.)							
Undecorated							
undecorated	1		1				



**Figure 6-60.** Historic material recovered from the Beauvais site (16PC68). a) Green transfer-printed early whiteware; b) Blue transfer-printed early whiteware; c) Red hand-painted early whiteware; d) Buffware rougepot fragment; e) Annular-banded whiteware; f) Fragment from bottle of "Dr. Kilmer's Swamp Root Kidney Cure"; g) Molded, lipping-tool finished olive amber bottle neck.

early Mississippi period (A.D. 1200 to 1350) component to be assigned to the site. Of particular interest, however, is the single sherd of Mulberry Creek Cord Marked, *var. unspecified*. Beyond suggesting a Baytown (A.D. 400 to 700) to early Coles Creek (A.D. 700 to 800) date, this sherd represents one of the only examples of cord-marking in the eastern Atchafalaya area south of the Red River confluence region. As such it has some bearing on the issue of cultural affiliation; cord marking is generally associated with culture areas to the north, rather than on

the coast. A single flake of tan cobble chert was also collected from the site, and four pieces of daub were found in ST 10.

#### *Comments and Recommendations*

The Alcatraz site is a late Baytown to early Coles Creek (A.D. 600 to 800) and late Coles Creek (A.D. 1000 to 1200) or Mississippi period (A.D. 1200 to 1650) occupation covering a limited amount of area on the south bank of Bayou Grosse Tete. Exposure

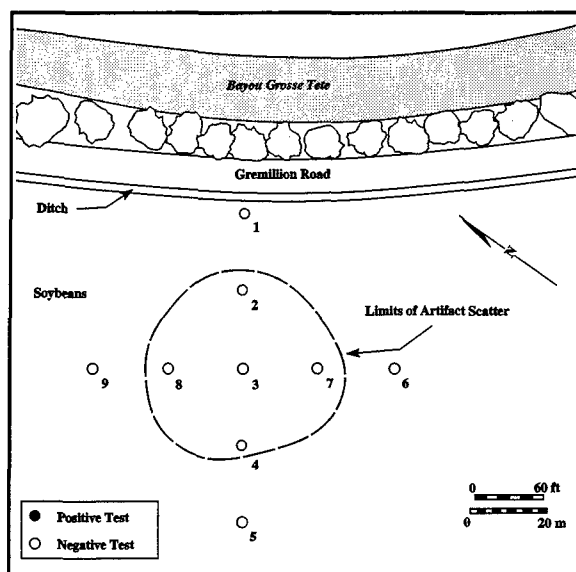


Figure 6-61. Sketch map of the Golden Gate site (16PC69).

of the midden to plow disturbance appears to be relatively late; sherds are still confined to a relatively tight area, and subsurface testing shows that much of the site remains undisturbed. Clearance and plowing are probably more recent phenomenon here, as is evinced by the 1969 Fordoche, LA 7.5' quadrangle, which shows much of this property still in forest. The occupation, which may represent a single house or a small, short term campsite, is likely typical of the smaller scatters that the survey has encountered; disturbance has simply not gone on as long here, so less site deflation and distortion have occurred. The sherd of cord-marked pottery alone would make this a noteworthy site, given the scarcity of cord-marked pottery in the regions south of the Red River confluence. This site has a high potential for producing significant archaeological data, and further testing is recommended to determine eligibility for the National Register.

#### 16PC71 Frost

##### *Location and Description*

The Frost site is a large (120 by 90 m, oriented northeast to southwest) historic scatter centered on a group of structures at the intersection of Gremillion Road and an unnamed gravel access road, about 110 m west/northwest of the Alcatraz site (Figure 6-64).

Table 6-45. Artifacts from the Golden Gate Site (16PC69).

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #13	TOTAL
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>			
Coarse Earthenware			
Buffware			
Tin enameled			
Faience Blanche	1		1
Redware			
flecked lead-glazed	1		1
Semi-Refined Earthenware			
Semi-Refined Redware			
White Slipped			
Yellowware			
Annular (banded)			
blue	1		1
polychrome	2		2
Refined Earthenware			
Pearlware			
Edged (Unscaloped)			
blue	1		1
Undecorated	1		1
Annular (Banded)			
monochrome	2		2
polychrome	1		1
Early Whiteware			
Transfer-printed			
blue	1		1
Edged (var. unscaloped)			
blue	1		1
Hand Painted			
red	1		1
Undecorated			
undecorated	3		3
Whiteware			
Transfer-printed			
blue	3		3
Annular (banded)			
monochrome	2		2
polychrome	1		1
Edged (unscaloped)			
blue	4		4
Molded			
undecorated	1		1
Undecorated			
undecorated	5		5
Fiestaware			
Undecorated			
Turquoise		1	1
Unidentified Refined Earthenware			
Edged (unscaloped)			
blue	1		1
Undecorated			
Undecorated	1		1
Stoneware			
Albany (Int.), Salt (ext.)			
Undecorated			
undecorated	1		1
Porcelain			
Hard Paste			
Undecorated			
undecorated	2		2
<b>GLASS</b>			
Free Blown			
Hollow Glass Rod Pontil			
clear blue	1		1
Machine Made			
Unidentified Mold Type			
Owens machine made			
clear	1		1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique			
clear	2		2
clear purple	1		1
milk (white)	1		1
olive	1		1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>45</b>

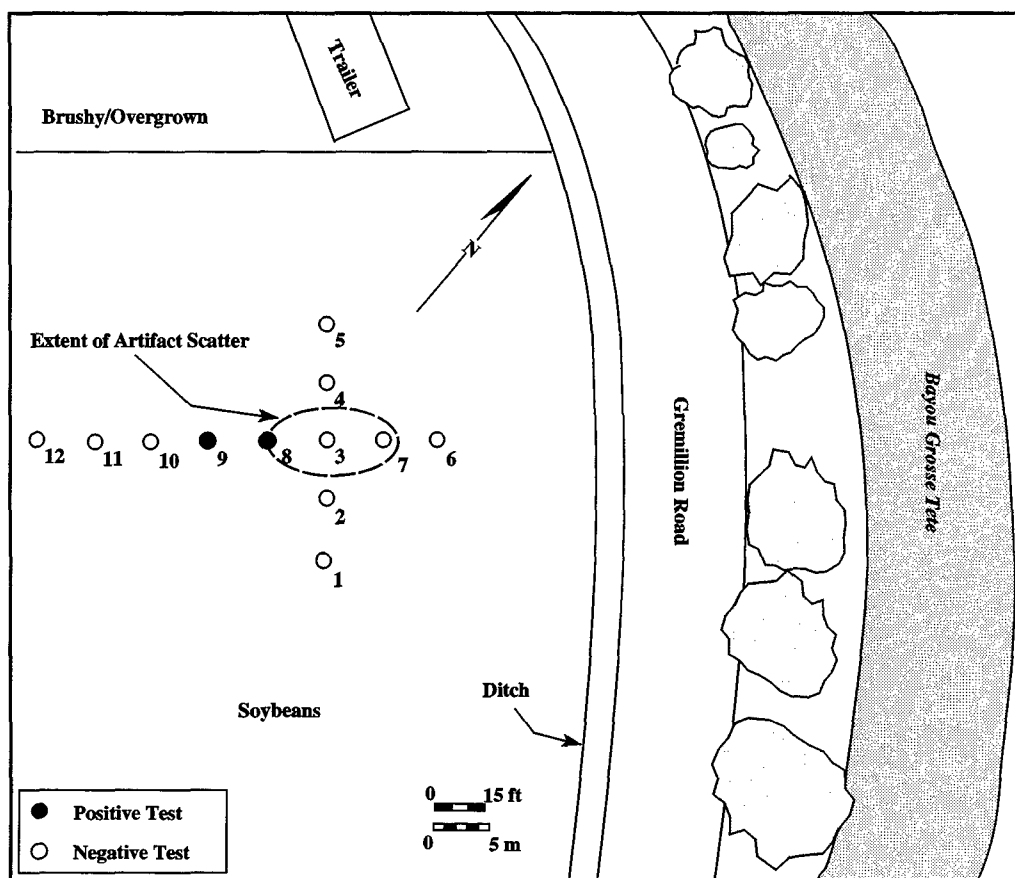


Figure 6-62. Sketch map of the Alcatraz site (16PC70).

Table 6-46. Artifacts from the Alcatraz Site (16PC70).

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #9	Shovel Test #10	TOTAL
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>				
Baytown Plain				
<i>var. Addis</i>	2			2
<i>var. unspecified</i>	4	1	1	6
Mazique Incised				
<i>var. Manchac</i>	2			2
Mulberry Creek Cord Marked				
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1			1
Unidentified Incised on Baytown Plain,				
<i>var. unspecified</i>	2			2
<b>PREHISTORIC LITHICS</b>				
Chipped Stone				
Chert				
Flake	1			1
<b>PREHISTORIC OTHER</b>				
Daub			4	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>18</b>

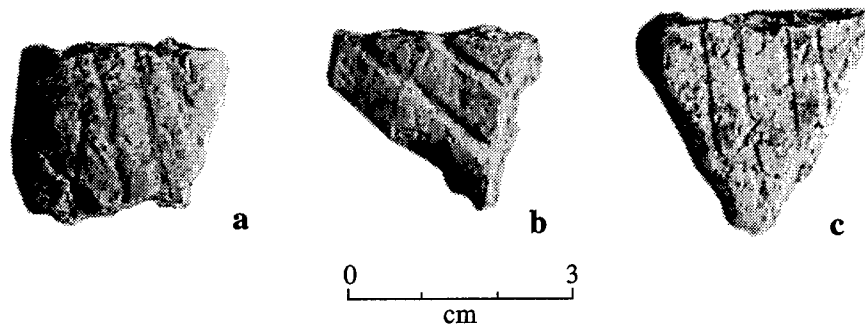


Figure 6-63. Prehistoric material recovered from the Alcatraz site (16PC70). a) Mulberry Creek Cord-Marked, *var. unspecified*; b-c) Mazique Incised, *var. Manchac*.

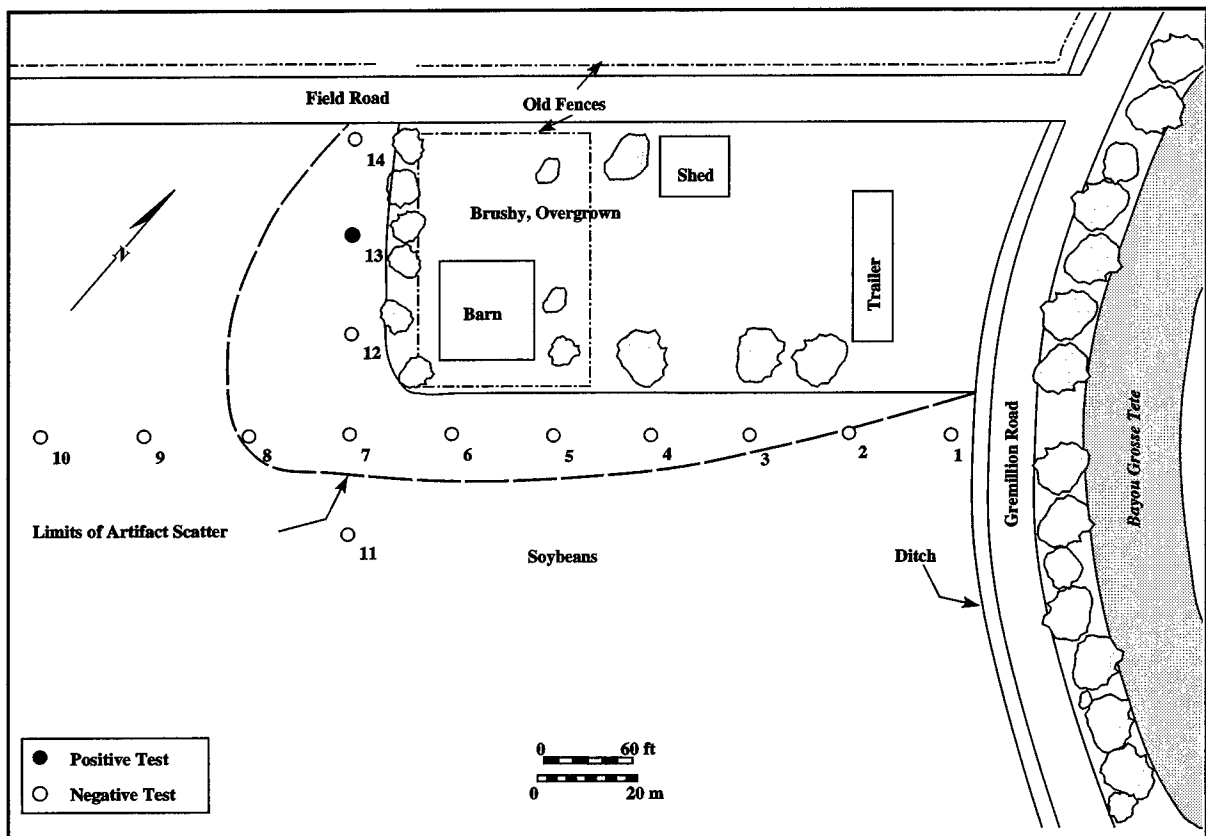


Figure 6-64. Sketch map of the Frost site (16PC71).

Like the Alcatraz site, Frost lies on the southern natural levee of Bayou Grosse Tete on Commerce soils. The site borders a 55 by 110 m rectangular lot in which sits a modern trailer home, an overgrown, fenced-in feed lot, a collapsing barn and a smaller shed. According to the current landowner (Mr. Brent Beauvais, who owns the site with his sister), the shed was used as a processing station for the cattle which his fa-

ther raised on the property. Several pieces of cut beef bone were noted from the eastern end of the site, around STs 13 and 14.

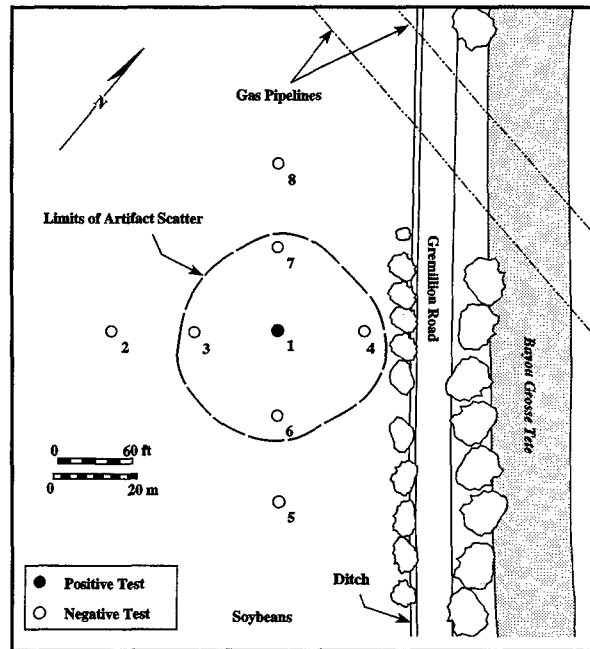
Site boundaries were delineated with the standard crossing transects of shovel tests spaced at 20 m intervals. Stratigraphy was entirely natural below the very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) silt loam

**Table 6-47. Artifacts from the Frost Site (16PC71).**

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #13	TOTAL
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>			
Coarse Earthenware			
Lead Glaze			
Clear Lead Glazed	1		1
Semi-Refined Earthenware			
Yellowware			
Undecorated			
Undecorated	2		2
Refined Earthenware			
Early Whiteware			
Undecorated			
undecorated	2	1	3
Whiteware			
Embossed			
undecorated	1		1
Undecorated			
undecorated	15		15
Ironstone			
Undecorated			
Undecorated	1		1
Stoneware			
Albany (Int.), Albany (ext.)			
Undecorated			
undecorated	5		5
Semi-Porcelain			
Insulator	1		1
<b>GLASS</b>			
Molded			
Post-Bottom Mold			
Unidentified lipping technique			
clear blue	1		1
Unidentified Mold Type			
Lipping Tooled			
clear	1		1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique			
clear	1	1	2
clear blue	1		1
clear purple	5		5
cobalt blue	2		2
olive amber	1		1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>42</b>

plowzone, consisting of a brown to dark brown (10YR4/3) silt loam subsoil running from 15 to 50 cm below surface. A single test (ST 13) produced brick and a sherd of historic pottery from the plowzone, as well as a single piece of glass between 30 and 40 cm below surface. Otherwise, no cultural deposits were found.

Historic ceramics from the Frost site include early whiteware, common whiteware, and ironstone (Table 6-47). Glass found at the site was either mold-made or of unidentified manufacturing technique, and included olive amber and clear purple vessel glass. One molded glass bottle fragment bore a manufacturer's mark for the Adolphus Busch Glass Manufacturing Co. of Belleville, Illinois from 1886 to 1907. Overall, the site was probably occupied over much of the nineteenth

**Figure 6-65. Sketch map of the Where's Norm site (16PC72).**

century, dating from 1840 to 1890. The lack of twentieth century refuse is somewhat surprising, considering the activity taking place here in at least the middle decades of 1900's.

### *Comments and Recommendations*

Frost is a large middle- to late-nineteenth century scatter centered on set of extant structures, at least one of which is very recent. Disposal activities from the occupants of these (and earlier) structures is the most likely explanation for the scatter. An assessment of the significance and age of these structures should await access to the lot on which they sit.

### *16PC72 Where's Norm*

#### *Location and Description*

The Where's Norm site lies on the same natural levee (Commerce soil) deposits as the Frost site, just 300 m to the west/northwest, on the south side of Bayou Grosse Tete (Figure 6-65). This is a small (40 by 40 m) historic scatter located just to the south of a pipeline right-of-way (ROW). A structure is depicted just north of this location (within the pipeline ROW) in the 1969 Fordoche, LA 7.5' quad-

**Table 6-48. Artifacts from the Where's Norm Site (16PC72).**

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #1	TOTAL
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>			
Refined Earthenware			
Pearlware			
Undecorated			
Undecorated	1		1
Whiteware			
Hand-painted			
monochrome	1		1
Repoussé			
Undecorated	1		1
Undecorated			
undecorated	7		7
Ironstone			
Undecorated			
Undecorated	2		2
Stoneware			
Bristol (Int.), Bristol (ext.)			
Blue on white			
undecorated	2		2
Porcelain			
Hard Paste			
Undecorated			
undecorated	1		1
<b>GLASS</b>			
Unidentified Manufacturing technique			
clear		1	1
clear purple	2	1	3
milk (white)	1		1
vaseline (yellow-green)	1		1
Flat			
clear green	1		1
<b>METAL</b>			
Iron			
unidentified		2	2
Brass			
Cartridge		1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>25</b>

range, and it is likely that this scatter is associated with it.

The Where's Norm site was delineated with two crossing transects of shovel tests dug at 20 m intervals. Only one test (ST 1) produced cultural material, in the form of an historic sherd, three pieces of metal, and several pieces of brick, all from the plowzone. Shovel test stratigraphy was otherwise limited to a sterile, 12 cm-thick dark yellowish brown (10YR4/4) silt loam subsoil overlain by a brown to dark brown (10YR3/3) plowzone.

Only a handful of historic artifacts were collected from 16PC72 (Table 6-48). Common whiteware, stoneware, and a single sherd of pearlware were collected. A sherd of whiteware with repoussé decoration indicates a date from the early half of the twentieth century. Clear purple glass of unidentified manufacturing technique indicates a turn-of-the-twentieth-century occupation as well. Overall, the collection may range from 1830 to 1930, but the collection is too small and too vague to define with any certainty.

#### *Comments and Recommendations*

The Where's Norm site is a small historic scatter dating from the nineteenth century to the early half of the twentieth century. No intact deposits were noted from this site, and no further work is recommended.





## CHAPTER 7

# SITE REVISITS

### *Introduction*

In addition to the sample survey discussed in the previous chapter, the fieldwork conducted for the present study included revisits to three previously recorded sites (Figure 7-1). Each of these sites is discussed separately below by site number.

### *Updates for Previously Recorded Sites*

#### *16IV01 Rosedale Plantation*

### *Previous Research*

The Rosedale Plantation site was first recorded by Fred Kniffen in 1937, and discussed in his *The Indian Mounds of Iberville Parish* (Kniffen 1938). Since that time, surprisingly little archaeological activity has taken place at the prominent mound site. Robert Neuman visited the site in 1970, taking a minor surface collection. Richard Weinstein and Eileen Burden updated the state file for the site in 1975 after their visit. Ray Fredlund collected the relatively well-known "Rosedale disc" fragment from west of the mound in 1979, providing the basis for much of Weinstein's (1987) article on Southern Cult items in southeast Louisiana. Dennis Jones and Malcolm Shuman (1987) visited the site in 1986 and mapped the mound for their *Archaeological Atlas*.

### *Present Description*

The Rosedale Plantation site, on the western natural levee of Bayou Grosse Tete just south of Slacks, LA, is dominated by a single large (40 by 40 m) pyramidal platform mound, approximately 2.4 m high (Figures 7-2 to 7-4). The summit, as it exists today, is rectangular to ovate, measuring 20 by 20 m. A house originally built by Austin Woolfolk in 1840, and later home to the prominent Schwing family, was built atop the mound, and is still occupied. During construction of the house, several prehistoric artifacts were noted, including a large earthenware vessel containing the skeletons of two infants. At this time, it was also noted that a native burial ground was located in the sugarcane fields nearby (Gagliano et al 1975:36).

A small (4 by 6 by 3 m high) vaulted brick tomb lies about 100 m east of the mound, apparently evacuated and abandoned a number of years ago (Figures 7-5 and 7-6). The age of the structure is unknown, but the original bricks which constitute the walls of the structure (a different set of bricks was apparently added later for a façade) were probably locally made plantation bricks, with a softer paste and more variable dimensions than is the norm today; it is possible that the structure is contemporary with the ante-bellum component of the site. The state site files also note a slave cemetery on this same prop-

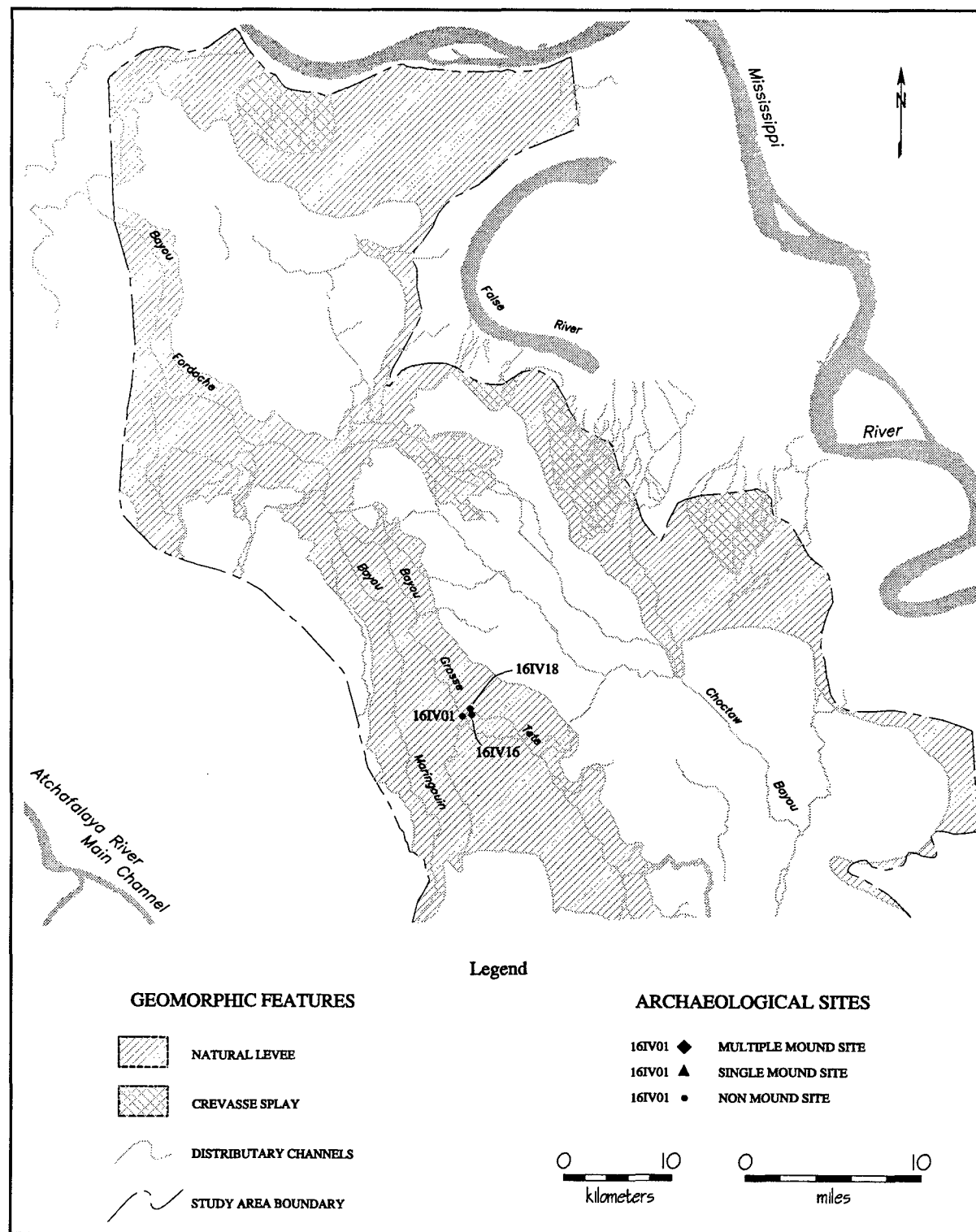


Figure 7-1. Previously recorded sites visited by the survey.

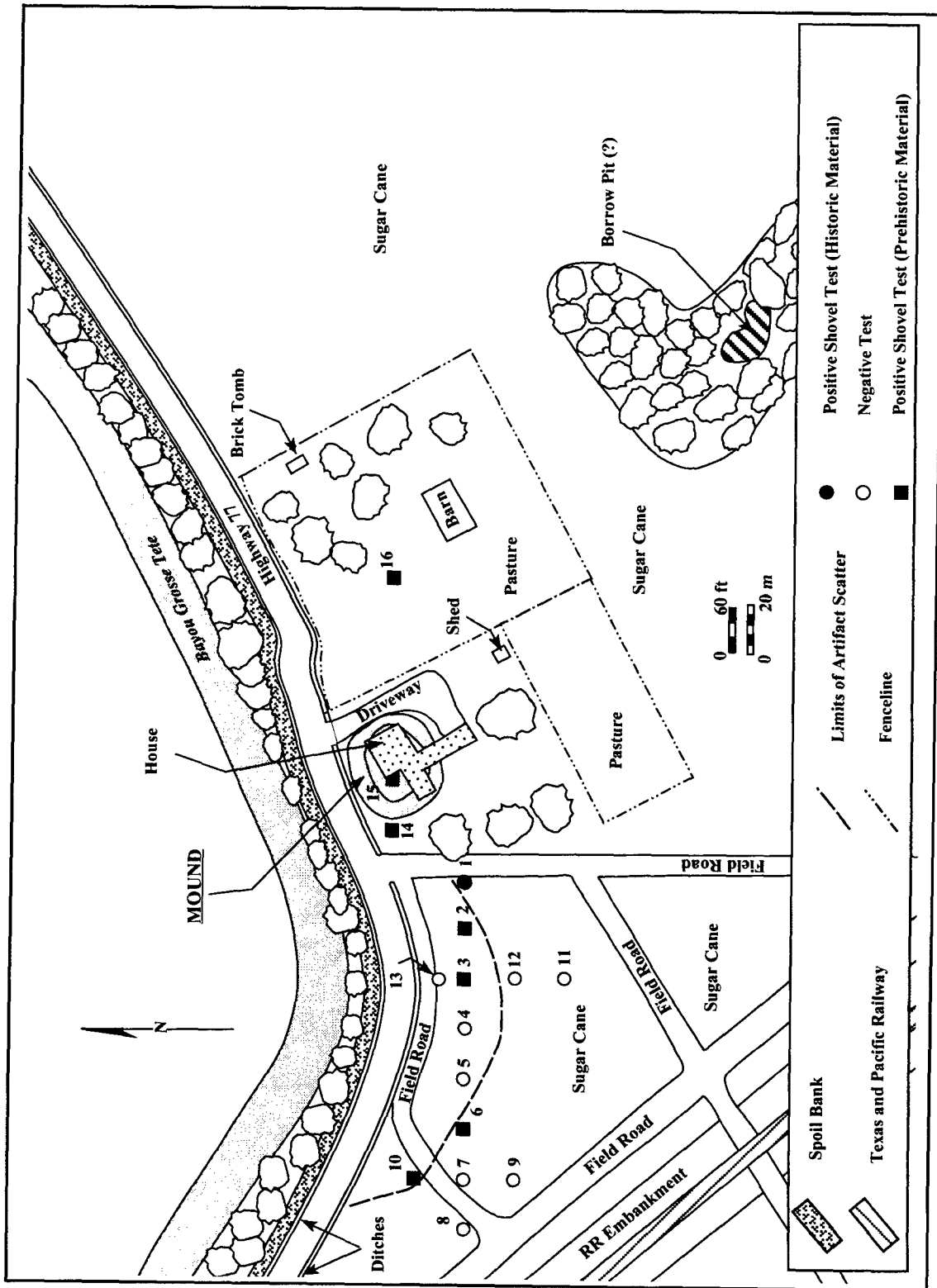


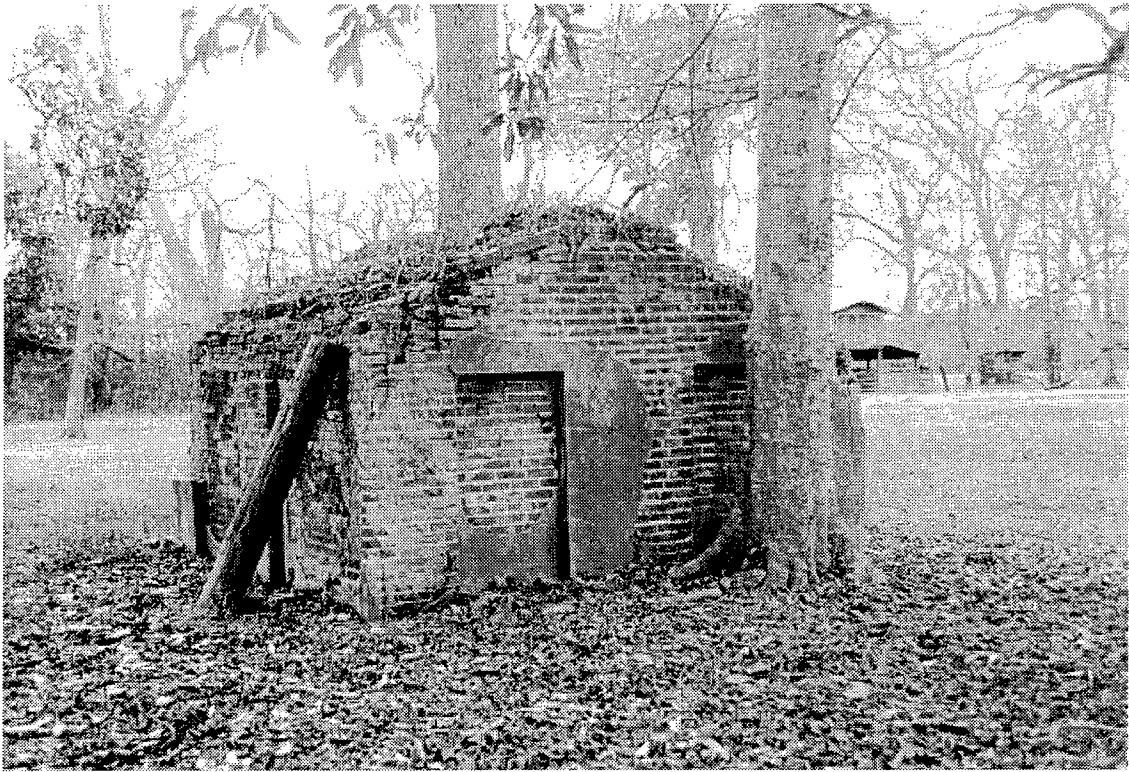
Figure 7-2. Sketch map of the Rosedale Plantation site (16IV01).



**Figure 7-3.** The Rosedale Plantation site (16IV01). View of mound and house from north.  
Date: 18 January 2000.



**Figure 7-4.** The Rosedale Plantation site (16IV01). View of mound and house from west.  
Date: 18 January 2000.



**Figure 7-5.** The Rosedale Plantation site (16IV01). View of empty brick tomb from north-east. Date: 18 January 2000.



**Figure 7-6.** The Rosedale Plantation site (16IV01). View of empty brick tomb from south. Date: 18 January 2000.

erty, which Shuman and Jones report was north of the mound in a fallow garden. However, the area to the immediate north of the mound is occupied by Highway 77 and the south bank of Bayou Grosse Tete. A more likely location is east or west of the mound; the cemetery may in fact be associated with the tomb. Other structures on the site, including a barn, a small shed, and a swimming pool, are probably more modern. A large stand of trees 180 to 200 m southeast of the mound conceals a 20 by 20 m kidney-shaped pit, roughly 3 m deep. This may be a prehistoric borrow pit for the mound.

Louisiana Highway 77 may have covered much of the site north of the mound, as prehistoric artifacts are common in the ditch spoil from either side of the road. Most surface collections in the past, however, have come from the sugarcane fields to the west of the house, and that is certainly where the majority of prehistoric materials were found in CEI's January, 2000 visit to the site. Site delineation began in this area, with an east-west line of shovel tests excavated at 20 m intervals, crossed by two parallel transects of shovel tests running north-south. The majority of these tests were sterile, producing only a 14 cm-thick dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) silt loam plowzone overlying a grayish brown (10YR5/2) silt loam subsoil, a fairly typical Commerce soil profile. A single shovel test (ST 1), at the boundary between the sugarcane field and the house lot, produced only brick fragments from the plowzone. Shovel Tests 2, 3, 6, and 10 produced prehistoric artifacts. A layer of very dark gray (10YR3/1) silty clay, rich in artifacts, faunal material, and charcoal was noted in STs 3 and 10 (26 to 43 cm below surface and 14 to 26 cm below surface, respectively). These appear to be intact features or midden. Traces of calcined bone and charcoal were noted from a layer of dark gray (10YR4/1) silt loam in ST 12 from 28 to 38 cm below surface, probably the same occupation layer noted in ST 3.

Shovel Tests 14 and 15 were excavated to test the toe of the mound and the mound summit, respectively. Both tests were extended by means of a bucket auger dug into the base of the test. The upper 35 cm of ST 14 was occupied by a dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) silty clay rich in historic artifacts, especially brick and glass. A dark gray (10YR4/1), sterile, oxidized silty clay underlay this to a depth of 52 cm. Both of these strata may be runoff from the mound. Below this, to a depth of 120 cm, a brown (10YR5/3) sterile silt loam probably represents the underlying levee subsoil.

Shovel Test 15, excavated at the top of the mound to the west of the house, produced a complicated stratigraphic sequence of mound fill and occupation layers. Midden strata were encountered at 17 to 30, 120 to 130, 180 to 187, and 210 to 220 cm below surface. These occupation zones were made of very dark gray (10YR3/1) to very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) silt loams and silty clays with moderate to heavy charcoal, decayed bone fragments, and occasionally pottery sherds. Fill layers in between were comprised of yellowish brown (10YR5/4) to dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) basket-loaded silty and sandy clays. The final stratum encountered was a dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) silt loam running from 220 to at least 247 cm below surface, the limits of excavation. It is not clear if this is mound fill or submound levee soil, but a potsherd encountered at 224 cm below surface leads us to suggest that the bottom of the mound has not yet been encountered.

Shovel Test 16, excavated in the cow pasture to the east of the mound, produced a 15 cm-thick dark gray (10YR4/1) silty clay, probably a plowzone, over a dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) subsoil. A single aboriginal potsherd was recovered from about 25 cm below surface. The unit was terminated at 45 cm below surface due to the presence of somewhat inquisitive, persistent, and frisky cattle. As these animals obviously felt that the field crew was there to alleviate their boredom, no other tests were dug in this pasture.

### *Analysis of Collections*

The two LSU collections from this site were analyzed in 1986 by Richard A. Weinstein and included in his 1987 discussion of the locale relative to the engraved stone disc discovered there (see LAS Bulletin No. 11.) Kniffen's original collection actually consists of three elements: a surface collection of 239 sherds donated by "resident children" (Catalogue No. 748), the single vessel of Parkin Punctated (Catalogue No. 749), and another surface collection of 342 sherds apparently made by Kniffen himself (Catalogue No. 750). All were catalogued into the LSU curation system sometime during the spring or summer of 1936. The second collection was obtained by Robert W. Neuman in 1972 from the field north of the pyramidal mound. It consisted only of 46 aboriginal sherds. Weinstein's analysis (1987:Table 1) lists a total of 631 sherds from these collections. This number has grown only slightly between the time of Weinstein's (1987) article and the present analysis, and 633 sherds remain in the



collections loaned by LSU (Table 7-1, Figures 7-7 and 7-8).

Aboriginal activity at Rosedale appears to begin in the late Baytown period (A.D. 600 to 700) or early Coles Creek period (A.D. 700 to 800). This time period is represented by minor quantities of Larto Red; French Fork Incised, *vars. Larkin* and *unspecified*; Mazique Incised, *vars. Mazique* and *Hendrix*; Rhinehart Punctated; Coles Creek Incised *vars. Judd Bayou, Richardson, and Serentz*; and two examples of Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified* rims bearing an incised lip line, similar to Chase and Keo rims. Additionally, several sherds of Mazique Incised, *var. unspecified* bear line treatments similar to Alligator Incised or even Marksville Incised, *var. Vick*. The pastes, however, are more in line with later Coles Creek varieties, and these may be examples of early *Manchac*-like decoration on a non-Addis paste. The presence of Coles Creek Incised, *var. Mott*, in conjunction with Mazique Incised, *var. King's Point* and a handful of sherds resembling Baytown Plain, *var. Vicksburg*, suggests a middle Coles Creek (A.D. 800 to 1000) presence at the site, although the generally ubiquitous Pontchartrain Check Stamped is missing.

The primary occupation, however, probably dates to the late Coles Creek (A.D. 1000 to 1200) and Mississippi (A.D. 1200 to 1650) periods. Varieties dating from the terminal Coles Creek St. Gabriel phase (A.D. 1000 to 1200) include Anna Incised, *var. Little Red* [equivalent to *Australia*, but on a Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified* paste; see Schwab 1998]; Carter Engraved, *var. unspecified*; Avoyelles Punctated; Coleman Incised; Coles Creek Incised, *vars. Hilly Grove* and *Hardy*; Harrison Bayou Incised, *var. Bunkie*; Mazique Incised, *var. Manchac*, and Plaquemine Brushed, *var. Blackwater* [Ryan's (1997) *var. Plaquemine* equivalent executed on a grog-tempered Baytown Plain (non-Addis) paste].

The succeeding early Mississippi period (ca. A.D. 1200 - 1350) is seen in the presence of Barton Incised; Chicot Red; L'Eau Noire Incised, *var. Bayou Bourbe*; Leland Incised, *var. unspecified* (the latter executed on a grog-tempered Baytown Plain paste); Old Town Red, *var. Red Rock*; the partial vessel of Parkin Punctated, *var. Transylvania*; Plaquemine Brushed, *var. Plaquemine*; Mississippi Plain, *var. unspecified*; and in the large percentages of Baytown Plain, *var. Addis*. Additionally, many of the sherds of *Hardy* and *Manchac* noted above may also date to this phase. The middle and late portions of the Mississippi period (ca. A.D. 1350 - 1650) are also

well represented by sherds of Barton Incised; Fatherland Incised, *vars. Fatherland* and *Stanton*; Maddox Engraved, *var. Emerald*; Owens Punctated, *var. McIlhenny*; Leland Incised, *var. Foster*; and Winterville Incised, *var. unspecified*. The sherds of *Transylvania*, *Red Rock*, Barton Incised, *Manchac* and *Plaquemine* may also date to this time period, along with Bell Plain, *Addis*, Mississippi Plain, and the stone disk fragment described by Weinstein (16IV1-24; 1987).

A protohistoric to historic period component (ca. A.D. 1650 - 1800) is probably present here as well. Sherds of Fatherland Incised, *vars. Bayou Goula, Nancy, and Snyder's Bluff* probably date from this late time period, as may the sherds of *Emerald, Fatherland, Stanton, McIlhenny, Red Rock, Winterville* Incised, and Mississippi Plain.

The LSU collections from the Rosedale Plantation site cover a broad range of time, beginning in the terminal Baytown (A.D. 600 to 700) or early Coles Creek (A.D. 700 to 800) periods, and stretching to at least the protohistoric period. Phillips (1970:Figure 447) identified a Delta Natchezan component (late Mississippi period, A.D. 1450 to 1650) here, which is borne out by this study, although the bulk of diagnostics are probably from earlier occupations. Most of the occupation takes place during the late Coles Creek (A.D. 1000 to 1200) and early Mississippi periods (A.D. 1200 to 1350), continuing fairly strongly until the end of the sequence.

The collections taken by the current study come largely from surface contexts, especially from the sugarcane field to the west of the site (Table 7-2, Figures 7-9 to 7-11). The earliest sherds from the site in this collection probably come from the later phases (Bayou Ramos and St. Gabriel, A.D. 800 to 1000) of the Coles Creek period. These include examples of Coles Creek Incised, *vars. Hilly Grove* and *Mott*, Harrison Bayou Incised, *var. Bunkie*, Plaquemine Brushed, *var. Blackwater*, and Rhinehart Punctated. The lack of solid Coles Creek markers, such as French Fork Incised and Pontchartrain Check Stamped in this and the LSU Collections, however, would suggest that these sherds probably fit better into the later (St. Gabriel) phase.

The succeeding Mississippi period (A.D. 1200 to 1650) is much stronger in the CEI collections. Sherds of *Addis, Plaquemine, Manchac, and Hardy*, and Chicot Red probably date from the early Mississippi period (A.D. 1200 to 1350), although these varieties are common throughout the Mississippi period.



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**Table 7-1. LSU Collections from the Rosedale Plantation site (16IV1).**


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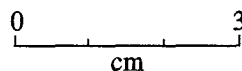
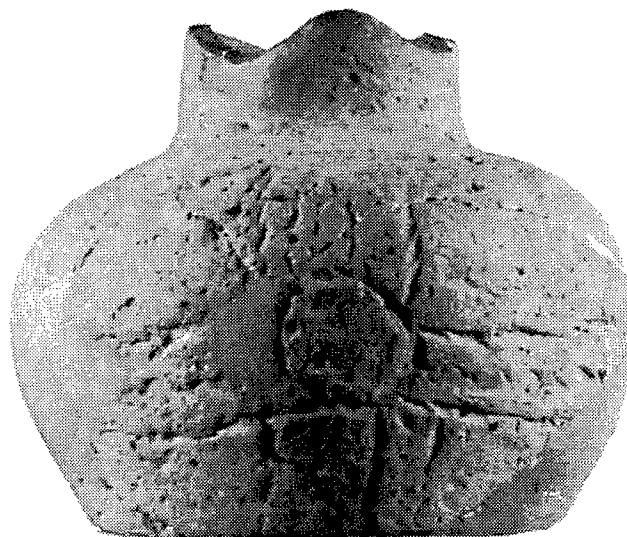
	Surface Collections
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>	
Baytown Plain	
<i>var. Addis</i>	98
<i>var. Vicksburg</i>	5
<i>var. unspecified</i>	192
Bell Plain	
<i>var. unspecified</i>	2
Mississippi Plain	
<i>var. unspecified</i>	9
Anna Incised	
<i>var. Australia</i>	1
<i>var. Little Red</i>	3
Avoyelles Punctated	
<i>var. Avoyelles</i>	1
<i>var. Dupree</i>	1
<i>var. Tatum</i>	1
<i>var. unspecified</i>	6
Barton Incised	
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1
Carter Engraved	
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1
Chicot Red	
<i>var. unspecified</i>	3
Coleman Incised	
<i>var. Coleman</i>	1
<i>var. Bass</i>	2
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1
Coles Creek Incised	
<i>var. Coles Creek</i>	2
<i>var. Hardy</i>	9
<i>var. Hilly Grove</i>	5
<i>var. Judd Bayou</i>	3
<i>var. Mott</i>	4
<i>var. Phillips</i>	5
<i>var. Richardson</i>	1
<i>var. Serentz</i>	1
<i>var. Stoner</i>	2
<i>var. unspecified</i>	15
Fatherland Incised	
<i>var. Fatherland</i>	10
<i>var. Bayou Goula</i>	2
<i>var. Nancy</i>	1
<i>var. Snyder's Bluff</i>	2
<i>var. Stanton</i>	4
<i>var. unspecified</i>	8
French Fork Incised	
<i>var. Larkin</i>	2
<i>var. Iberville</i>	1
<i>var. unspecified</i>	3
Harrison Bayou Incised	
<i>var. Bunkie</i>	1
Larto Red	
<i>var. Larto</i>	2
L'Eau Noire Incised	
<i>var. Bayou Bourbe</i>	3
Leland Incised	
<i>var. Foster</i>	6
<i>var. unspecified, on Baytown Plain</i>	4

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(continued)

Table 7-1. Concluded.

	Surface Collections
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>	
Maddox Engraved	
<i>var. Emerald</i>	16
Mazique Incised	
<i>var. Mazique</i>	1
<i>var. Hendrix</i>	1
<i>var. King's Point</i>	3
<i>var. Manchac</i>	36
<i>var. unspecified</i>	25
Old Town Red	
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1
Owens Punctated	
<i>var. McIlhenny</i>	4
Parkin Punctated	
<i>var. Transylvania</i> (partial vessel)	1
Plaquemine Brushed	
<i>var. Plaquemine</i>	53
<i>var. Blackwater</i>	11
<i>var. unspecified</i> , overincised, herringbone pattern	4
<i>var. unspecified</i>	4
Pontchartrain Check Stamped	
<i>var. Pontchartrain</i>	1
Rhinehart Punctated	
<i>var. Rhinehart</i>	1
Winterville Incised	
<i>var. Belzoni</i>	1
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1
Unidentified Incised on Baytown Plain	
<i>var. Addis</i>	7
<i>var. unspecified</i>	21
Unidentified Incised on Bell Plain	
<i>var. Greenville</i>	1
Line in lip, on Baytown Plain	
<i>var. Addis</i>	3
<i>var. unspecified</i>	2
Unidentified Punctated on Baytown Plain	
<i>var. unspecified</i>	2
Unidentified Decorated on Baytown Plain	
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1
<b>PREHISTORIC LITHICS</b>	
Chipped Stone	
Chert	
Pebbles	1
Flake	1
<b>PREHISTORIC OTHER</b>	
Daub	1
Faunal Remains	
<i>Rangia cuneata</i> shell	3
Unidentified faunal	1
<b>METAL</b>	
Lead	
Minie Ball, .58 caliber, two-ring	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>633</b>



**Figure 7-7. Partial vessel of Parkin Punctated, var. Transylvania from the Rosedale Plantation site (16IV01). From the LSU collections.**

A late Mississippi period to protohistoric component (A.D. 1650 to 1800) is also suggested by sherds of *Emerald*, *Barataria Incised*, and *Leland Incised*. The sherds of *Mississippi Plain* may also date from this time.

A limited number of historic artifacts were also collected from the site (Table 7-3). The presence of pearlware dates from the early decades of occupation at the plantation. The majority of historic diagnostics, however, date from the turn of the twentieth century, and include pieces of whiteware and ironstone, as well as machine-made glass. A two-ring, .58 cal. Minié ball was also noted from LSU collections, probably from the middle decades of the 19th century.

#### ***Comments and Recommendations***

The Rosedale Plantation site is a well-preserved platform mound dating to the Coles Creek and protohistoric periods. Intact midden deposits can be found to the west, and several previous constructions and occupation layers are preserved within the mound. Additional deposits may underlie the pas-

ture to the east and ditch spoil along the highway. In addition to the prehistoric occupation, a large antebellum house sits atop the mound, and a vaulted brick tomb (now empty) lies just to the east of the mound. The research potential for Rosedale Plantation is high, with intact deposits on and off the mound. Further testing is recommended for the prehistoric component; the house atop the mound is probably eligible in and of itself.

The historic identity of the late prehistoric occupants of the site is an intriguing question, as several candidates are likely to exist. The *Chitimacha* may be among the strongest of these possibilities. Swanton (1911:352) notes the presence of a large *Chitimacha* village with a dance house at *Grosse Tete*, although it is unclear if he refers to the town or the bayou. The *Okelousa* are another candidate, having been identified by La Page Du Pratz as being from an area "west of and above *Pointe Coupee*" (1975 [1774]:317). Beyond this brief reference, however, little is known of the group than that they were allied with the *Ouacha* and *Chawasha* (Swanton 1911:302), and it is not entirely certain that they represented a separate entity from the *Opelousa*.

Unfortunately, until better data are available linking specific assemblages with historically defined groups, the identification of specific groups in the archaeological record remains a largely speculative exercise.

### ***16IV16 South of Rosedale Plantation***

#### ***Previous Research***

Little is known about the low mound at the intersection of West Oaks Lane and Louisiana Highway 77. The first apparent work at the site by professional archaeologists took place in 1937, according to state site files, when Kniffen visited the site. Weinstein and Burden visited the site in 1975 and filled out a site update form. Under the impression that the mound was leveled in the intervening years, Jones and Shuman (1987) did not visit the site during their tour of Iberville Parish mound sites in 1986, and subsequently recorded it as destroyed. No previous collections are housed at LSU.

#### ***Present Description***

Despite reports of its demise, the mound still covers an area measuring approximately 27 by 34 m, rising to a height of about 0.5 m from the surrounding Commerce levee soils (Figures 7-12 and 7-13). An elevator facility has been constructed about 40 m to the southeast, but a greater impact on the site is liable to have come from a house which apparently stood at the south edge of the mound, and was subsequently bulldozed. The house was standing here at the time the 1935 Grosse Tete, LA 15' quadrangle was published, and was still standing here in 1980 when the 1954 Grosse Tete, LA 7.5' quadrangle was photorevised. By the 1992 version of this same map, the house has disappeared. It is uncertain what relationship this mound site bears to the Rosedale Plantation mound (16IV1), just 300 m to the north.

The area in which the mound sits is grassy, bordered on the south and west by sugarcane fields. No artifacts were collected from the surrounding cane fields, despite good ground-surface visibility. A modest collection was taken from the ditch spoil opposite the mound along LA Highway 77, but no sherds were noted from the wooded area to the north of this or from the roadside ditches immediately north and east of the mound. A small stand of low-lying secondary growth lies immediately to the west of the mound, probably marking the borrow pit for the mound. Various

pieces of historic trash, including lumber, asphalt roofing, barbed wire, metal signs, clothing, a doghouse, a pigeon coop, and container glass have been pushed into this low area, presumably at about the time the house was destroyed. The destruction of the house probably resulted in the damage to the south edge of the mound.

Delineation of 16IV16 was undertaken with two crossing transects of shovel tests spaced at 20 m intervals. A single shovel test was extended with a bucket auger to a depth of 128 cm below surface near the center of the mound (ST 1). A sterile brown (10YR5/3) silt loam was encountered just below surface to a depth of 12 cm in ST 1, probably mound fill. Underlying this, a 5 cm-thick, very dark gray (10YR3/1) silt loam was encountered, modestly rich in charcoal. This probably represents an occupation layer, although no artifacts were encountered. From 17 to 41 cm below surface, a sterile brown to dark brown (10YR4/3) silty clay loam probably represents another stratum of mound fill. A second occupation layer was found from 41 to 49 cm below surface, a very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) silty loam with moderate charcoal and six sherds of Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*. Below this, a succession of sterile silty clays and silt loams ranging from dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) to yellowish brown (10YR5/4) probably represents the natural levee on which the mound sits.

Shovel Test 2 was excavated just off the north edge of the mound. The shovel test profile revealed a layer of dark brown (10YR3/3) silt loam from ground surface to a depth of 30 cm flecked with brick fragments and a single Baytown Plain sherd, probably runoff from the top of the mound. This was underlain by a sterile dark yellowish brown (10YR4/4) silty clay loam mottled with a dark brown (10YR3/3) silty clay loam. At 48 cm, this gave way to a sterile grayish brown (10YR5/2) silty clay. Just off the toe of the mound to the east, ST 7 revealed a 22 cm-deep, very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) silty clay plowzone with fragments of mortar, brick, and a portion of an automobile alternator. Below this lay a sterile dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) silty clay to a depth of 44 cm below surface. This in turn gave way to a layer of the same soil mottled with a very dark grayish (10YR3/2) brown silty clay, with a modest quantity of charcoal and several aboriginal pottery sherds. This was underlain by a grayish brown (10YR5/2) silty clay that from about 68 to 82 cm below surface, the limits of excavation.

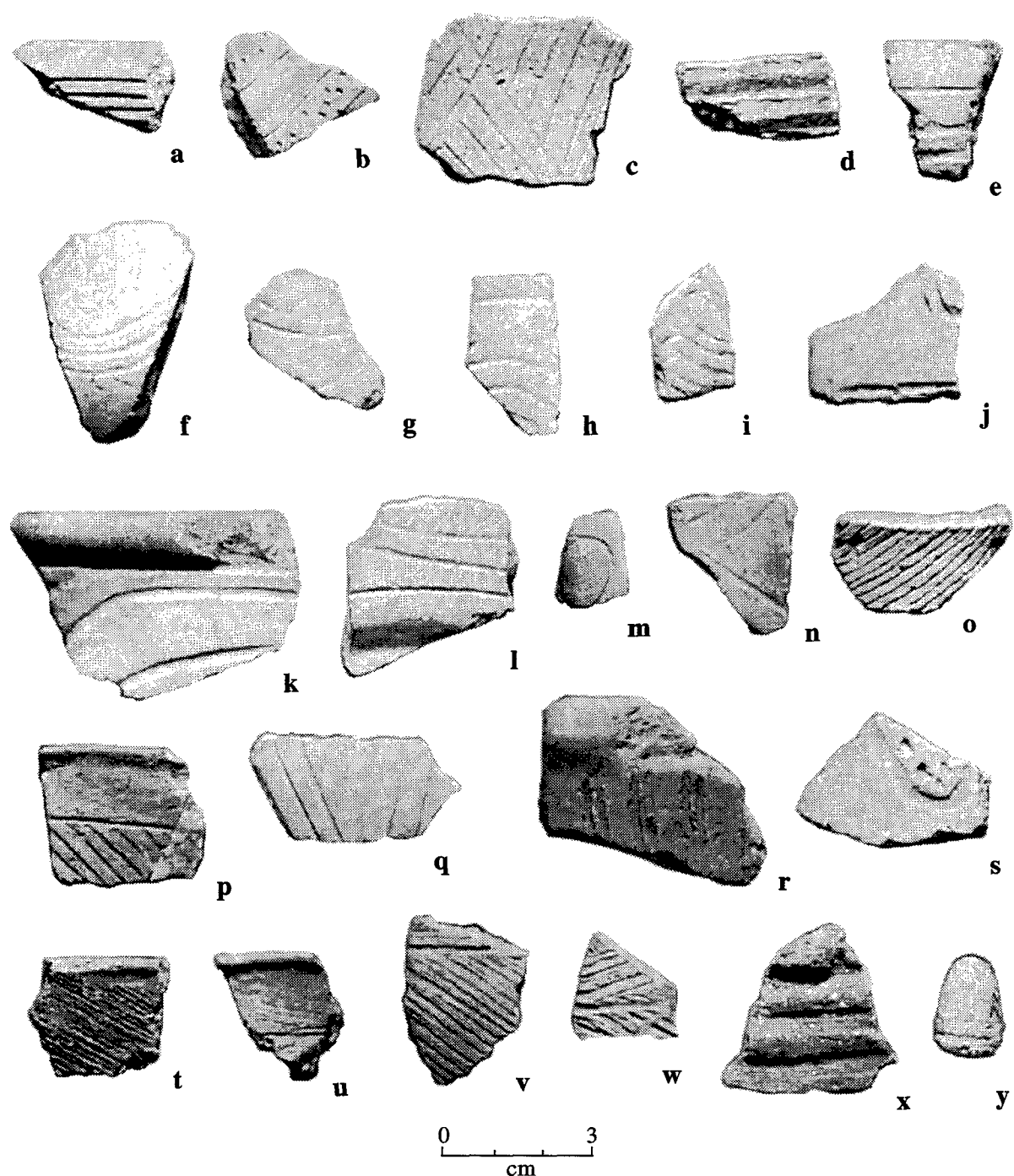
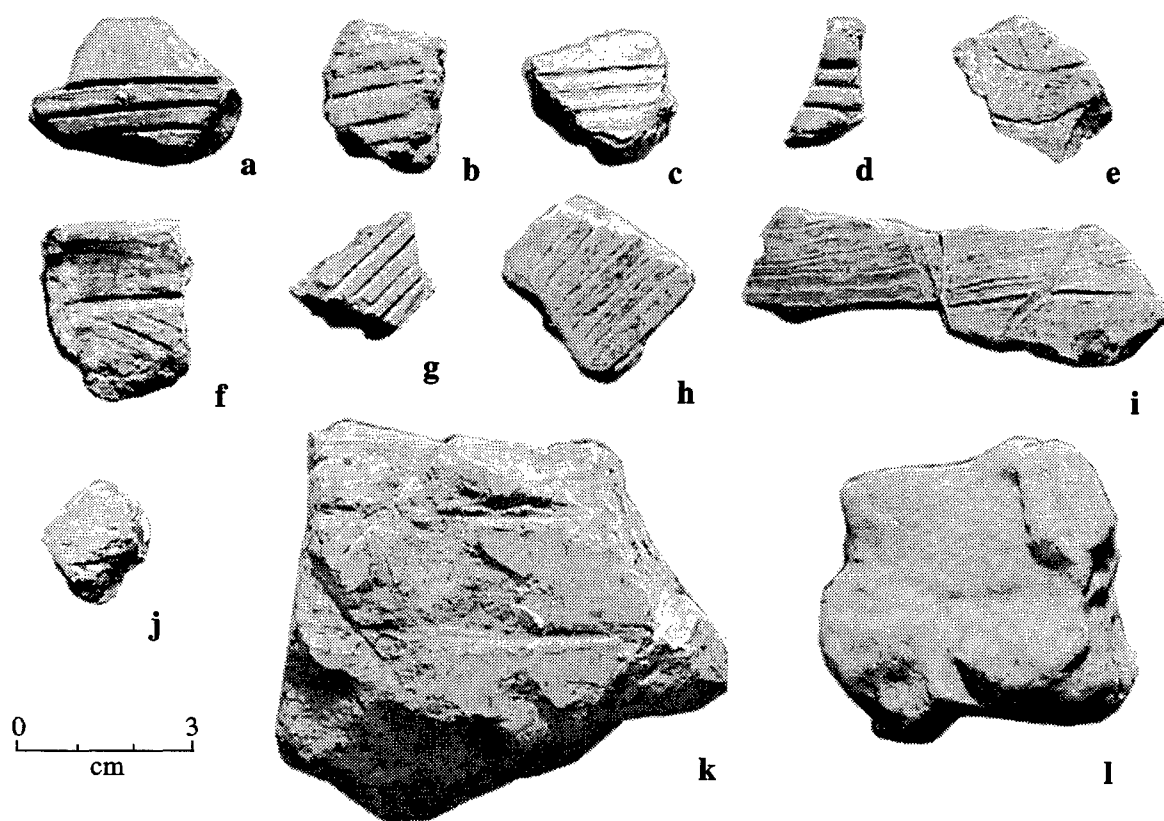


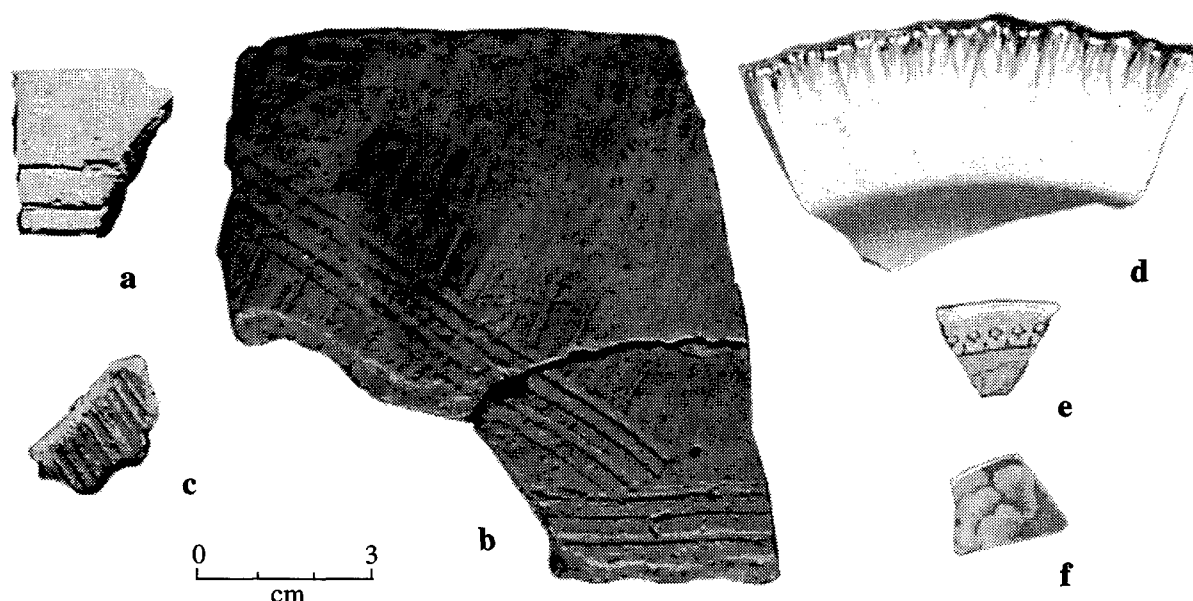
Figure 7-8. LSU Collections from the Rosedale Plantation site (16IV01). a) Anna Incised, *var. Australia*; b) Avoyelles Punctated, *var. Tatum*; c) Barton Incised, *var. unspecified*; d) Coleman Incised, *var. unspecified*; e) Coles Creek Incised, *var. Hardy*; f-g) Fatherland Incised, *var. Fatherland*; h) Fatherland Incised, *var. Snyder's Bluff*; i) Fatherland Incised, *var. Bayou Goula*; j) L'Eau Noire Incised, *var. unspecified*; k) Leland Incised, *var. Foster*; l-n) Maddox Engraved, *var. Emerald*; o) Mazique Incised, *var. King's Point*; p-r) Mazique Incised, *var. Manchac*; s) Owens Punctated, *var. McIlhenny*; t-w) Plaquemine Brushed, *var. Plaquemine*; x) Winterville Incised, *var. Belzoni*; y) .58 cal. Minié ball.

Table 7-2. Prehistoric Artifacts from the Rosedale Plantation Site (16IV1), Collected in the Current Study.

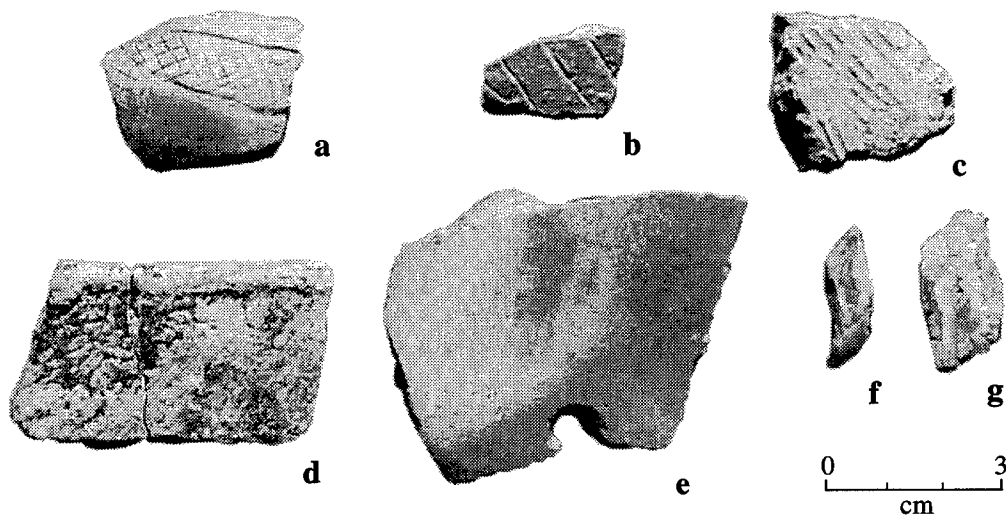
	Surface West of Mound	Surface North of Mound (Spill)	Surface Northeast of Mound (Spill)	Shovel Test #2	Shovel Test #3	Shovel Test #4	Shovel Test #6	Shovel Test #10	Shovel Test #15 17cm	Shovel Test #15 120cm	Shovel Test #15 224cm	TOTAL
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>												
Baytown Plain	19	3	7		6	1	1	5			1	42
var. <i>Addis</i>	82	18	7	1	8			20	2	2		142
Mississippi Plain												
var. <i>unspecified</i>	3											3
Barataria Incised	1											1
var. <i>unspecified</i>												
Chicot Red												
var. <i>Chicot</i>	3											3
Coles Creek Incised	1											1
var. <i>Hardy</i> , red filmed	3											3
var. <i>Hardy</i>												1
var. <i>Hilly Grove</i>		1										1
var. <i>Mott</i>	2											2
var. <i>unspecified</i>	1											1
Harrison Bayou Incised												
var. <i>Bunkie</i>	1											1
Leland Incised												
var. <i>unspecified</i>	1											1
Maddox Engraved												
var. <i>Emerald</i>	1				1							1
Mazique Incised												
var. <i>Manchac</i>	8				1							9
Plaquemine Brushed												
var. <i>Plaquemine</i>	7	1	2		1							11
var. <i>Blackwater</i>					2							2
Rhinehart Punctated	2	1										3
var. <i>unspecified</i>												
Unidentified Incised on Baytown Plain	3											3
var. <i>Addis</i>												
Unidentified Incised on Baytown Plain	5	4										9
var. <i>unspecified</i>												
Unidentified Incised and Punctated on Baytown Pla	1											1
var. <i>unspecified</i>												
Unidentified Decorated on Baytown Plain												
var. <i>unspecified</i>					1							1
<b>PREHISTORIC LITHICS</b>												
Chipped Stone												
Chert												
Broken Pebbles												
Flake	1		1		2				1			1
Daub												
Faunal Remains	1				3				1	1		6
gar scales					3							3
Unidentified faunal					17							17
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>273</b>



**Figure 7-9.** Material recovered from Rosedale Plantation site (16IV01), west of the mound, by the present study. a) Coles Creek Incised, *var. Mott*; b-c) Coles Creek Incised, *var. Hardy*; d) Coles Creek Incised, *var. Hardy*, red filmed; e) Leland Incised, *var. unspecified*; f-h) Mazique Incised, *var. Manchac*; i) Plaquemine Brushed, *var. Plaquemine*, with overincision; j) Mississippi Plain, *var. unspecified*; k) Iberian storage jar; l) daub fragment.



**Figure 7-10.** Material recovered from Rosedale Plantation site (16IV01), from spoil banks north of the mound, by the present study. a) Coles Creek Incised, *var. Hilly Grove*; b) Mazique Incised, *var. Manchac*; c) Plaquemine Brushed, *var. Plaquemine*; d) Blue-edged pearlware; e) Red transfer-print whiteware; f) Blue transfer-print whiteware.



**Figure 7-11.** Prehistoric material recovered from the midden west of the mound at Rosedale Plantation (16IV01), Shovel Test No. 3. a) Barataria Incised, *var. unspecified*; b) Mazique Incised, *var. Manchac*; c-d) Plaquemine Brushed, *var. Plaquemine*; e) Baytown Plain, *var. Addis*, base fragment. Note drill hole. f-g) Gar scales.

**Table 7-3. Historic Artifacts from the Rosedale Plantation Site (16IV01).**

	Surface West of Mound	Surface Northeast of Mound (Spoil)	Shovel Test #4	Total
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>				
Refined Earthenware				
Pearlware				
Edged (Scalloped)				
blue		1		1
Transfer-printed				
blue		1		1
Undecorated				
Undecorated		1		1
Whiteware				
Transfer-printed				
red		1		1
Undecorated				
undecorated	1	1		2
Ironstone				
Undecorated				
Undecorated	1			1
Stoneware				
Slip (Int.), Salt (ext.)				
Undecorated	2			2
Slip				
Undecorated	1			1
Semi-porcelain				
Unidentified	2			2
<b>GLASS</b>				
Machine Made				
Unidentified Mold Type				
Unidentified machine type				
clear			1	1
Unidentified Manufacturing technique				
clear			14	14
clear blue	1			1
<b>METAL</b>				
Iron				
nail				
type 1-10			1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>29</b>



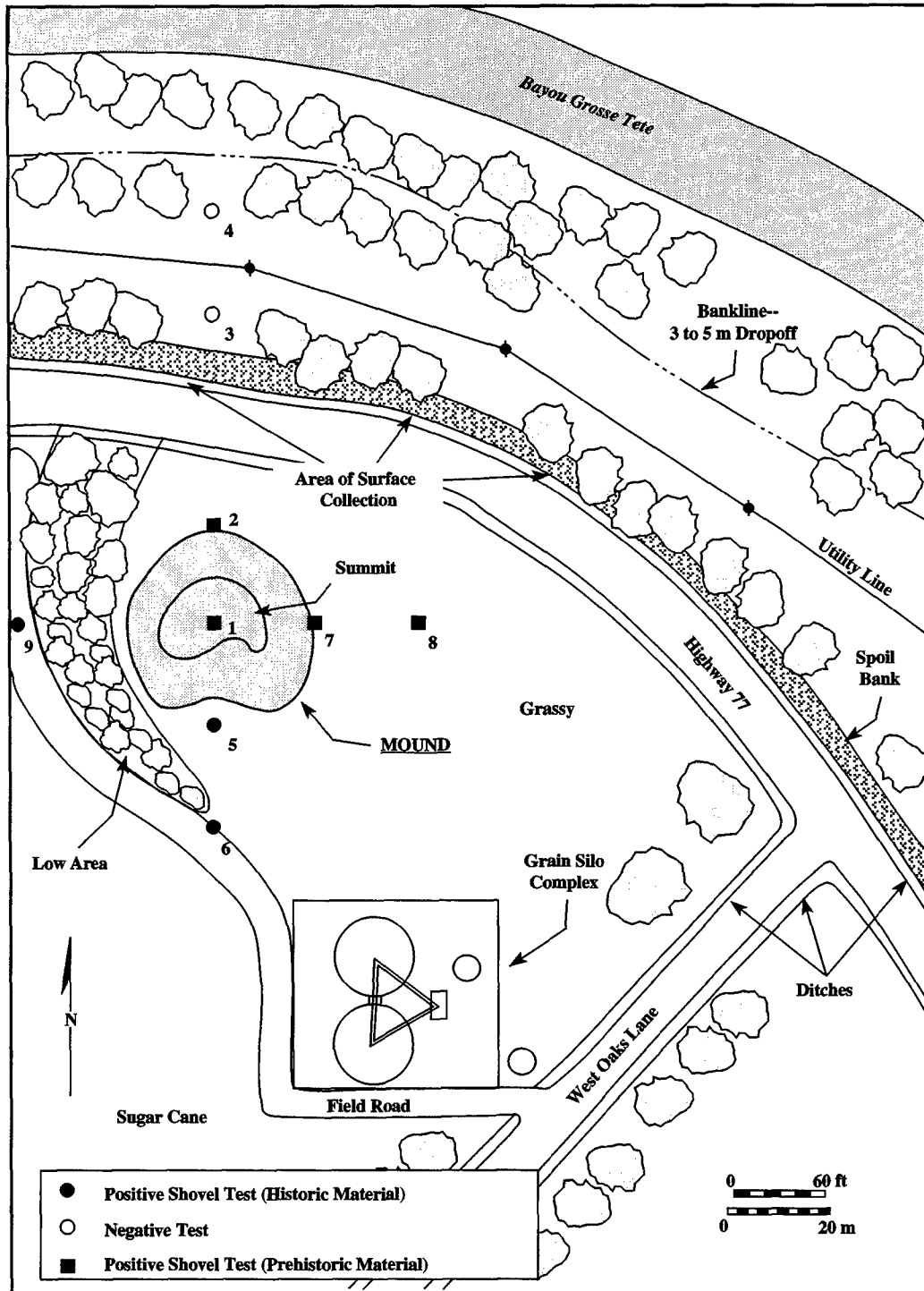


Figure 7-12. Sketch map of the South of Rosedale Plantation site (16IV16).



**Figure 7-13. The mound at the South of Rosedale Plantation site (16IV16), from the north. Photo taken 24 January 2000.**

Shovel tests 3 and 4 were both sterile, dug on the north side of Highway 77. These tests revealed a 15 to 24 cm-deep very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) silty clay covering dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) to brown (10YR5/3) levee subsoils which gradually lighten and lose their clay content with depth. Near the former location of the house, STs 5 and 6 revealed dense deposits of recent historic material throughout the tests, including glass, cut bone, brick, asbestos tiles, and historic ceramics. Both profiles reveal a 15 to 18 cm-deep very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) silt loam plowzone over a dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) silty clay subsoil. Shovel Test 5 yielded a thin layer of brown (10YR5/3) silty clay beneath this from 15 to 23 cm below surface, followed by a dark gray (10YR4/1) silty clay. While historic material was found in STs 5 and 6 from top to bottom, no aboriginal material was noted.

Similarly, STs 8 and 9 were dug 40 m to the east and west of the first shovel test, respectively. These both yielded a 15 cm-thick, sterile dark gray-

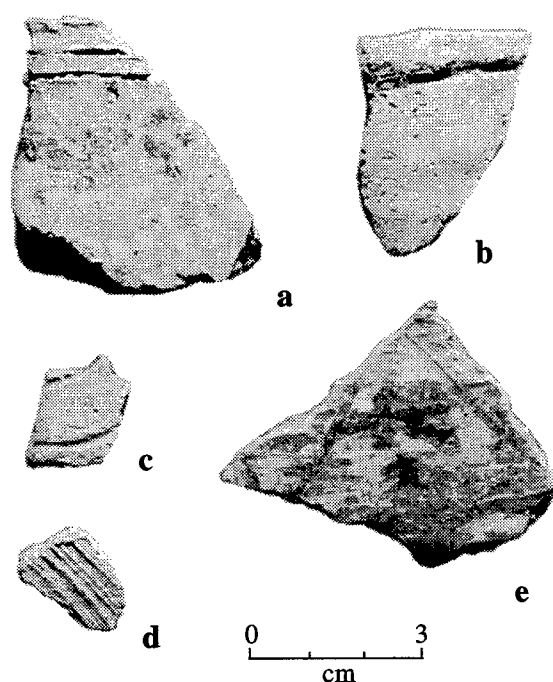
ish brown (10YR4/2) silty clay subsoil underlying a very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) oxidized silty clay plowzone. Brick fragments were noted in the plowzones of both tests, and two pieces of container glass were collected from ST 9.

#### *Analysis of Collections*

No artifacts were available from the LSU collections for analysis, and it is evident from state site forms as well as Jones and Shuman's (1987) description that few artifacts were ever found here, and no chronologically diagnostic pieces. The surface and excavated collections taken by the current study in January of 2000 total only 33 sherds, but several of these were temporally diagnostic (Table 7-4 and Figure 7-14). A late Coles Creek component (St. Gabriel phase, A.D. 1000 - 1200) is suggested by the presence of a single sherd of *Plaquemine Brushed, var. Blackwater*. However, the majority of the assemblage probably dates to the Mississippi period (A.D. 1200 to 1650), including the sherds of *Hardy*, *Plaquemine*, and *Addis*.

Table 7-4. Artifacts from the South of Rosedale Plantation Site (16IV16), Collected in the Current Study.

	Surface Collection	Shovel Test #1, ~44cm	Shovel Test #2	Shovel Test #4	Shovel Test #6	Shovel Test #7	Shovel Test #8	TOTAL
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>								
Baytown Plain	4	6	1			7		18
var. <i>Addis</i>	7							7
var. <i>unspecified</i>								
Coles Creek Incised	1							1
var. <i>Hardy</i>	1							1
var. <i>Phillips</i>								
Fatherland Incised	1							1
var. <i>unspecified</i>								
Plaquemine Brushed	2					1		3
var. <i>Plaquemine</i>	1							1
var. <i>Blackwater</i>								
<b>PREHISTORIC LITHICS</b>								
Chipped Stone								
Chert								
Flake	1							1
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>								
Stoneware								
Albany (Int.), Salt (ext.)								
Undecorated								
undecorated					1			1
<b>GLASS</b>								
Unidentified Manufacturing technique								
brown				1	1			2
clear			1	6	5		1	13
clear blue			1					1
clear green				1				1
cobalt blue							1	1
modern green				3				3
olive				1				1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>56</b>

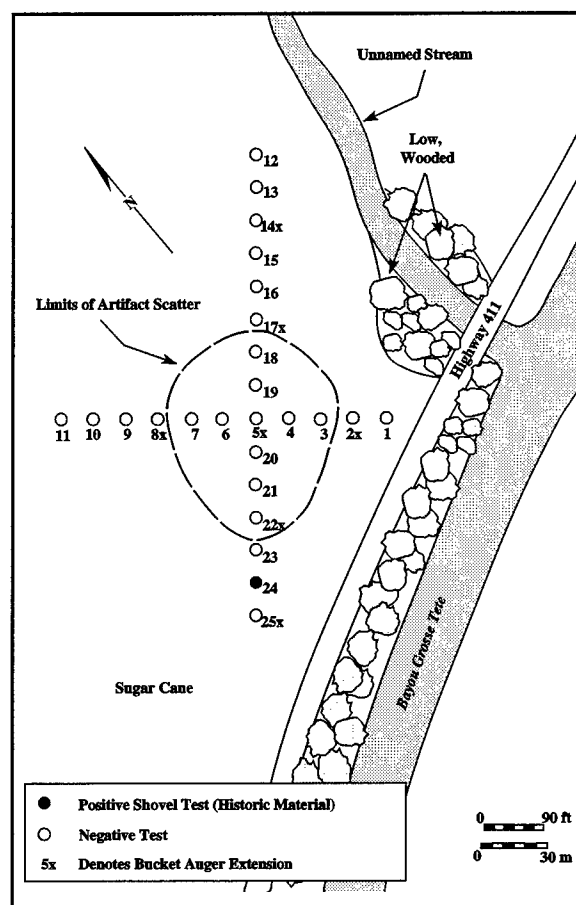


**Figure 7-14.** Prehistoric material recovered from the South of Rosedale Plantation site (16IV16). a) Coles Creek Incised, *var. Hardy*; b) Coles Creek Incised, *var. Phillips*; c) Fatherland incised, *var. unspecified*; d) Plaquemine Brushed, *var. Plaquemine*; e) Plaquemine Brushed, *var. Blackwater*, with overincision.

A single sherd of Fatherland Incised, *var. unspecified*, may indicate a late Mississippi period to protohistoric date (A.D. 1650 to 1800). A single flake of tan cobble chert represents the only non-ceramic prehistoric artifact from the site. Only a handful of historic artifacts were collected from the site. These include a piece of stoneware and several sherds of modern green, clear and cobalt glass, indicating a date from the early half of the twentieth century.

#### **Comments and Recommendations**

Contrary to reports in the Louisiana site files, 16IV16 survives as a low construction with intact deposits along the edges and within the mound. The site is recommended for further testing to assess the integrity of archaeological deposits within and around the mound, as well as the full chronological placement of the site.



**Figure 7-15.** Sketch map of the Slacks site (16IV18).

#### **16IV18 Slacks**

##### **Previous Research**

It is not certain who first recorded the Slacks site, just across Bayou Grosse Tete from 16IV1 and 16IV16. When Weinstein first recorded the scatter for the state, a card had already been filled out for the site at LSU. Weinstein and Burden's visit to the site in 1975 is the only documented visit to the site prior to the current study, and provides the only previously known collection.

##### **Present Description**

The site exists now probably much as it did in 1975. The Slacks site is a simple (80 by 95 m) scatter of prehistoric and historic artifacts just to the west of an unnamed stream that flows into Bayou Grosse Tete near Slacks, LA (Figure 7-15). No mound was

ever recorded here. Situated on a small prominence on the natural levee crest of Bayou Grosse Tete, the site lies on Commerce soils. The low knoll on which it sits is a deposit of very light silt loam, surrounded on all sides by more clayey soils.

After the surface collection was taken, two crossing transects of shovel tests excavated at 15 m intervals were used to delineate the site. Despite digging 24 shovel tests, only a single test yielded artifacts (ST 24), in the form of a brick fragment from the plowzone. In an effort to fathom the natural stratigraphy of the levee sequence, every third test or so was extended with a bucket auger to a depth of at least 120 cm. Typically, shovel tests near the center of the site showed a profile consisting of a 13 cm-thick brown to dark brown (10YR4/3) silt loam plowzone lying over a gray (10YR5/1) silt loam mottled with dark grayish brown (10YR4/3). This stratum gradually becomes coarser with depth until it approaches the texture of a silty sand. Occasional lenses of dark gray (10YR4/1) silty clay may mark periods of backswamp flooding. As each transect approaches its terminal end, the levee or point bar deposits noted in the center of the site become overlain with brown to dark brown (10YR4/3) and dark gray (10YR4/1) silty clays, which become dominant at the edges of the site. No intact midden or features were noted at the site.

#### Analysis of Collections

Weinstein recorded "a few plain body sherds" in the Louisiana state site form for the site. Presumably, this is the origin of the 16IV18 collection currently housed at LSU (Table 7-5). A single sherd of Coles Creek Incised, *var. Blakely* was identified from these collections, along with sherds of Baytown Plain resembling *var. Vicksburg*. These sherds suggest a Coles Creek date for Slacks, from the middle and late phases (A.D. 800 - 1200). Sherds of *Addis*, however, are probably somewhat later, most commonly found in the Plaquemine Medora phase (early to middle Mississippi period, A.D. 1200 to 1450). A preform, an amorphous biface, a core fragment, and two broken pebbles were all made from tan cobble chert, and several pieces of bone and shell were included in the collection.

The newest collection from the present study is more temporally diagnostic. The sherd of Rhinehart Punctated suggests a Coles Creek date and while varieties such as *Hardy* and *Manchac* may also date in part to the terminal end of the Coles Creek pe-

**Table 7-5. LSU Collections from the Slacks Site (16IV18).**

	16IV18-1 to 16IV-10
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>	
Baytown Plain	
<i>var. Addis</i>	4
<i>var. Addis</i> (bone, quartz, and clay temper)	1
<i>var. Vicksburg</i>	3
<i>var. unspecified</i>	25
Coles Creek Incised	
<i>var. Blakely</i>	1
<b>PREHISTORIC LITHICS</b>	
Chert	
Preform	1
Biface, Amorphous	1
Core Fragment	1
Pebble, broken	2
Ferruginous Sandstone	1
<b>FAUNAL REMAINS</b>	
Vertebrate	
Turtle carapace	2
Fish vertebrae	5
Unidentified Large Mammal	
Invertebrate	
Bivalve shell	2
Snail shell	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>53</b>

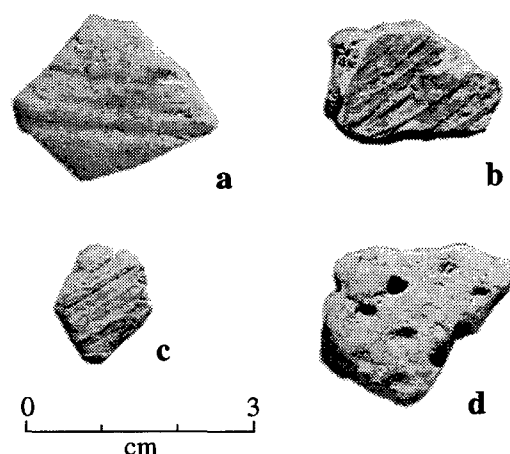
riod, the overall assemblage is suggestive of a Medora phase (A.D. 1200 to 1450) occupation (Table 7-6 and Figure 7-16). Sherds of *Addis*, *Hardy*, *Plaquemine*, and *Manchac* can probably be assigned to Plaquemine culture (early to middle Mississippi period, A.D. 1200 - 1450), although the sherds of Fatherland Incised, *var. Fatherland* and Mississippi Plain indicate a later prehistoric date. Overall, the collection appears to be contemporary with the primary occupations at 16IV1, 16IV16, and Peter Hill (16IV2), the mound site just 800 m to the southwest. Historic artifacts collected include two pieces of pearlware, a piece of porcelain, and a piece of clear purple glass. These indicate activity at the site in the early to middle decades of the 1800's and an early twentieth century occupation. A few brick fragments, clear glass and pieces of common whiteware were noted at the site, but not collected. These pieces probably represent a minor twentieth century tenant occupation, similar to many of the sites collected in the sample survey.

#### Comments and Recommendations

The Slacks site is a large prehistoric nonmound scatter with a minor historic component. The site appears to date to the late Coles Creek (A.D. 1000

**Table 7-6. Artifacts from the Slacks Site (16IV18), Collected in the Current Study.**

	Surface Collection
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>	
Baytown Plain	8
var. <i>Addis</i>	30
var. <i>unspecified</i>	
Mississippi Plain	1
var. <i>unspecified</i>	
Coles Creek Incised	1
var. <i>Hardy</i>	
Fatherland Incised	1
var. <i>Fatherland</i>	
Mazique Incised	1
var. <i>Manchac</i>	
Plaquemine Brushed	3
var. <i>Plaquemine</i>	
Rhinehart Punctated	1
var. <i>unspecified</i>	
Unidentified Incised on Baytown Plain	1
var. <i>Addis</i>	
Unidentified Incised on Baytown Plain	6
var. <i>unspecified</i>	
<b>PREHISTORIC LITHICS</b>	
Chipped Stone	
Chert	
Flake	5
<b>HISTORIC CERAMICS</b>	
Refined Earthenware	
Pearlware	
Transfer-printed	
blue	1
Undecorated	
Undecorated	1
Porcelain	
Bisque	
Molded	1
<b>GLASS</b>	
Unidentified Manufacturing technique	
clear purple	1
Glass	
marble	
milk, yellow, red	1
<b>METAL</b>	
Lead	
Unidentified	
unidentified	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>64</b>



**Figure 7-16. Prehistoric material recovered from the Slacks site (16IV18). a) Fatherland Incised, var. *Fatherland*; b-c) Plaquemine Brushed, var. *Plaquemine*; d) Rhinehart Punctated, var. *unspecified*.**

to 1200) and Mississippi periods (A.D. 1200 to 1650), and may be occupied late in prehistory as well. An ante-bellum component exists here, along with an early twentieth century occupation. Although surface collections from this study proved productive in identifying chronological components, subsurface testing revealed no intact midden or features. This is not to say that intact features could not exist, and the site type that 16IV18 represents should be reexamined in some way, as virtually nothing has been written about nonmound occupations in the area. The site is especially intriguing, as it may represent a slightly higher rung on the regional site hierarchy than the smallest occupations, such as West Oaks No. 1 (16IV58) or West Oaks No. 5 (16IV73). Further work is therefore recommended on this site.



## CHAPTER 8

# COLLECTION REVIEW

### *Introduction*

Among the more important aspects of the Lower Atchafalaya Backwater and Terrebonne Marsh studies (Kelley et al 2000; Weinstein and Kelley 1992) was the reanalysis of previous collections. This reanalysis was instrumental in formulating phase assignments and clarifying settlement patterns. For this reason, a similar analysis was undertaken for this project. Collections from six previously recorded and collected sites (Figure 8-1) were obtained on loan from the LSU Museum of Natural Science. The results are presented below.

#### *16IV02 (Peter Hill)*

##### *Location and Description*

Peter Hill is located on the eastern natural levee of Bayou Grosse Tete, south of Slacks, Louisiana. The two mounds form a rough east-west line with the Rosedale Mound and South of Rosedale Plantation sites on the west side of the bayou, and may form a single complex with it. Mound A, the easternmost and largest mound, is covered by dense hardwood growth and surrounded by sugarcane fields on the northern, eastern and southern sides. Jones and Shuman (1987:56) reported that Mound A measured 117 by 110 ft (36 by 34 m) at the base, and rose over the surrounding fields to a height of 12.5 ft (3.8 m). The mound is much the same today, a rectangular,

flat-topped pyramidal construction with a well-preserved platform and corners. A large borrow pit lies at the base of the mound near the north and east edges.

Mound B lies in the backyard of a residential property approximately 140 m west of Mound A, and was not visited at the time of the current study. This mound has several large trees growing on it, although it is generally kept more clear than Mound A. Jones and Shuman (1987:56) reported that Mound B was a pyramidal mound measuring 160 by 130 ft (49 by 40 m), with a height of 10.7 ft (3.2 m). Apparently, the family residing on the property have altered the appearance of the mound to a certain extent, smoothing the northern face of the mound and adding fill to other areas. Prior to this, the area had been in pasture, and apparently some damage had taken place due to grazing (Jones and Shuman 1987:56).

##### *Collection Review*

At least five collections from this site now are housed at LSU (Catalogue Nos. 715, 718, 16 IV 2-1 to 191, 16 IV 2-192 to 198, and 16 IV 2-199 to 204). The first two collections apparently were obtained by Kniffen in the 1930s. The next was dated July 3, 1965, but the collector is not identified. The fourth collection was taken on August 6, 1966, but again the collector is not identified. The final collection was supplied by Kathleen M. Byrd on May 23, 1972 (Table 8-1, Figures 8-2 and 8-3).



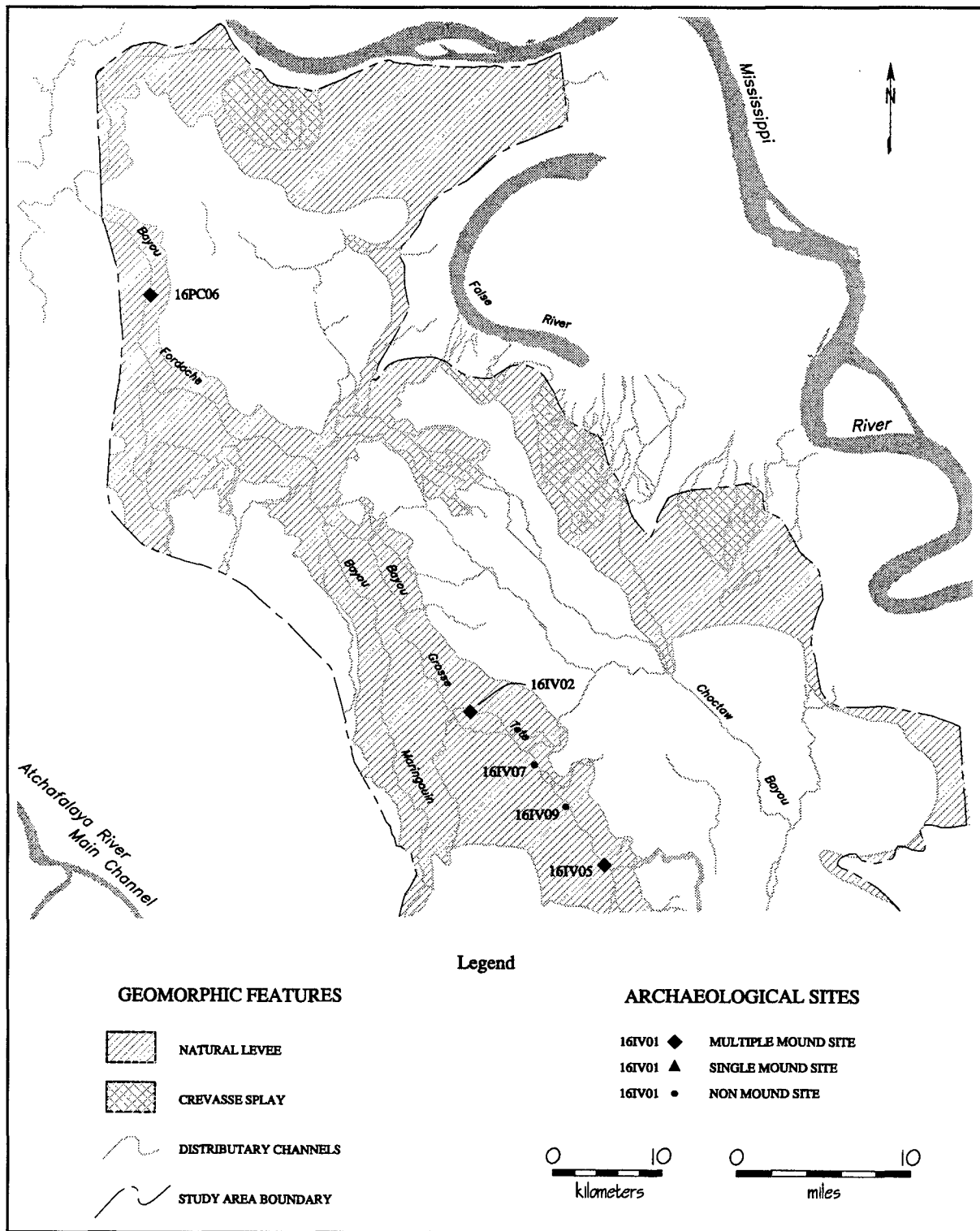


Figure 8-1. Sites included in collections review.

Table 8-1. LSU Collections from the Peter Hill Site (16IV2).

	LSU Cat#s 715, 718	16IV02-1 to 16IV02-198	16IV02-199 to 16IV02-204	TOTAL
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>				
Baytown Plain				
<i>var. Addis</i>	56	138	6	200
<i>var. unspecified</i>	171	491	11	673
Bell Plain				
<i>var. Greenville</i>		1		1
<i>var. St. Catherine</i>		4		4
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1			1
Anna Incised				
<i>var. unspecified</i>	2	1		3
Avoyelles Punctated				
<i>var. Avoyelles</i>	1			1
<i>var. Dupree</i>	1			1
Chicot Red				
<i>var. unspecified</i>	2	2		4
Coleman Incised				
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1	3		4
Coles Creek Incised				
<i>var. Blakely</i>		1		1
<i>var. Greenhouse</i>		1		1
<i>var. Hardy</i>	8	5	1	14
<i>var. Hilly Grove</i>	2			2
<i>var. Hunt</i>	1			1
<i>var. Jacoby</i>	1			1
<i>var. Judd Bayou</i>	2			2
<i>var. Serentz</i>	1			1
<i>var. Wade</i>	2			2
<i>var. unspecified</i>	7	14		21
Evansville Punctated				
<i>var. Evansville</i>	3			3
<i>var. DeVille</i>	1			1
<i>var. unspecified</i>	2			2
Fatherland Incised				
<i>var. Nancy</i>	3			3
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1			1
French Fork Incised				
<i>var. French Fork</i>	1			1
Harrison Bayou Incised				
<i>var. Harrison Bayou</i>		9		9
<i>var. Bunkie</i>	3	5		8
Larto Red				
<i>var. Larto</i>	1	1		2
L'Eau Noire Incised				
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1	1		2
Leland Incised				
<i>var. Foster</i>	4	8		12
Maddox Engraved				
<i>var. Emerald</i>	1	9		10
Marksville Incised				
<i>var. Yokena</i>	1			1
<i>var. Vick</i>	4	1		5
Marksville Stamped				
<i>var. Elm Ridge</i>	1			1
Mazique Incised				
<i>var. Mazique</i>	5	5		10
<i>var. Hendrix</i>	1	1		2
<i>var. Manchac</i>		10	1	11
<i>var. unspecified</i>	14	8		22

(continued)

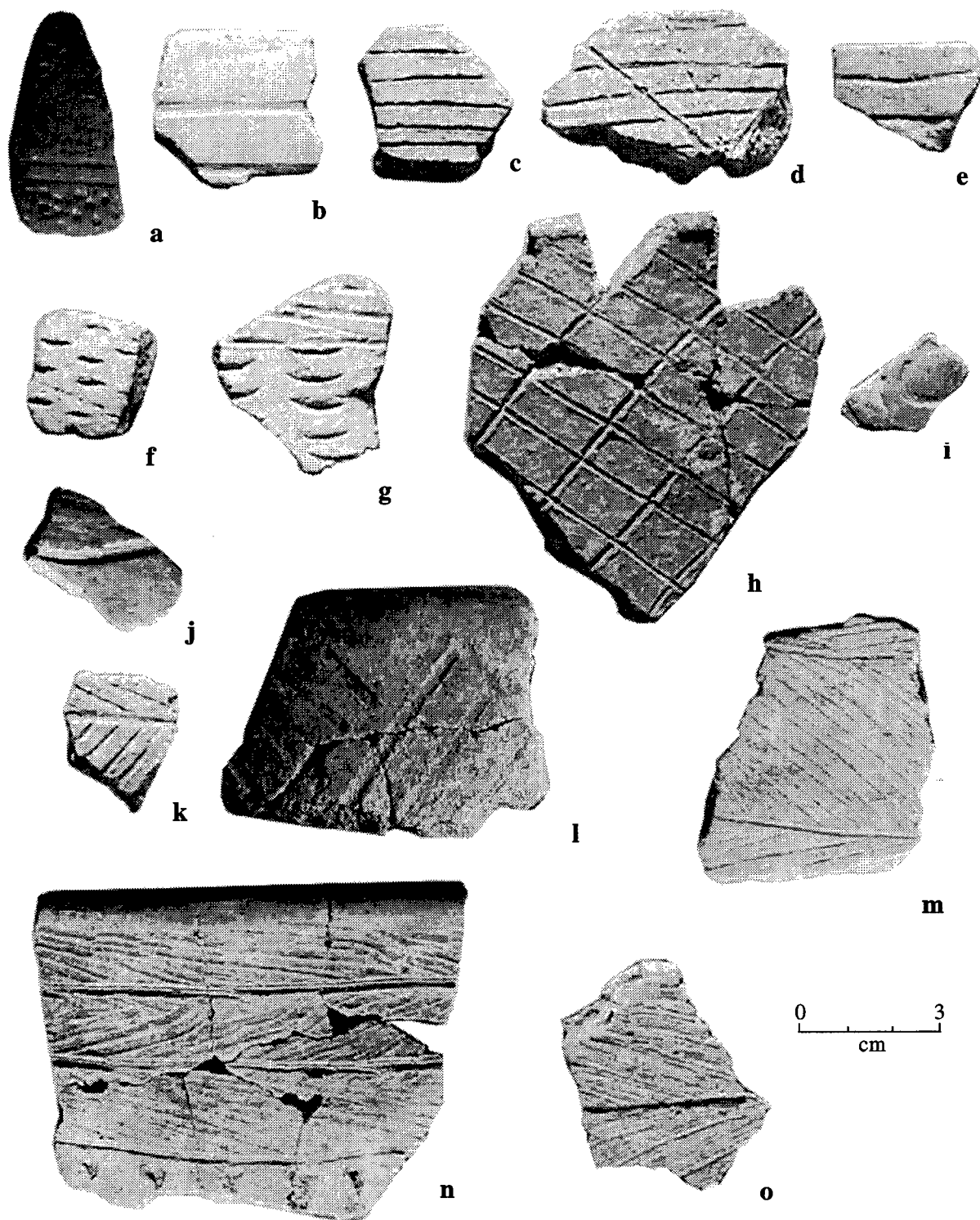
Table 8-1. Concluded.

	LSU Cat#s 715, 718	16IV02-1 to 16IV02-198	16IV02-199 to 16IV02-204	TOTAL
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>				
Plaquemine Brushed				
<i>var. Plaquemine</i>	33	36		69
<i>var. Blackwater</i>	19	11		30
<i>var. unspecified</i> , overincised (cf. <i>var. Law</i> )	4	18		22
Pontchartrain Check Stamped				
<i>var. Pontchartrain</i>	2			2
Sanson Incised				
<i>var. Sanson</i>		3		3
Winterville Incised				
<i>var. Belzoni</i>	1			1
Unidentified Incised on Baytown Plain				
<i>var. Addis</i>		7	1	8
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1	20		21
Line in lip, on Baytown Plain				
<i>var. Addis</i>	3	7		10
<i>var. unspecified</i>	5	4		9
Unidentified Punctated on Baytown Plain				
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1	4	1	6
Unidentified Decorated on Baytown Plain				
<i>var. unspecified</i>	5			5
<b>PREHISTORIC LITHICS</b>				
Chipped Stone				
Chert				
Points				
Large, Corner Notched		1		1
Alba Stemmed		1		1
Preforms	1			1
Shatter		1		1
Core Fragments	1	1		2
Pebbles, unmodified		35		35
Fire Shattered		1	1	2
<b>OTHER</b>				
Daub	2	4		6
Blue "chalk"	1			1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>831</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>1232</b>

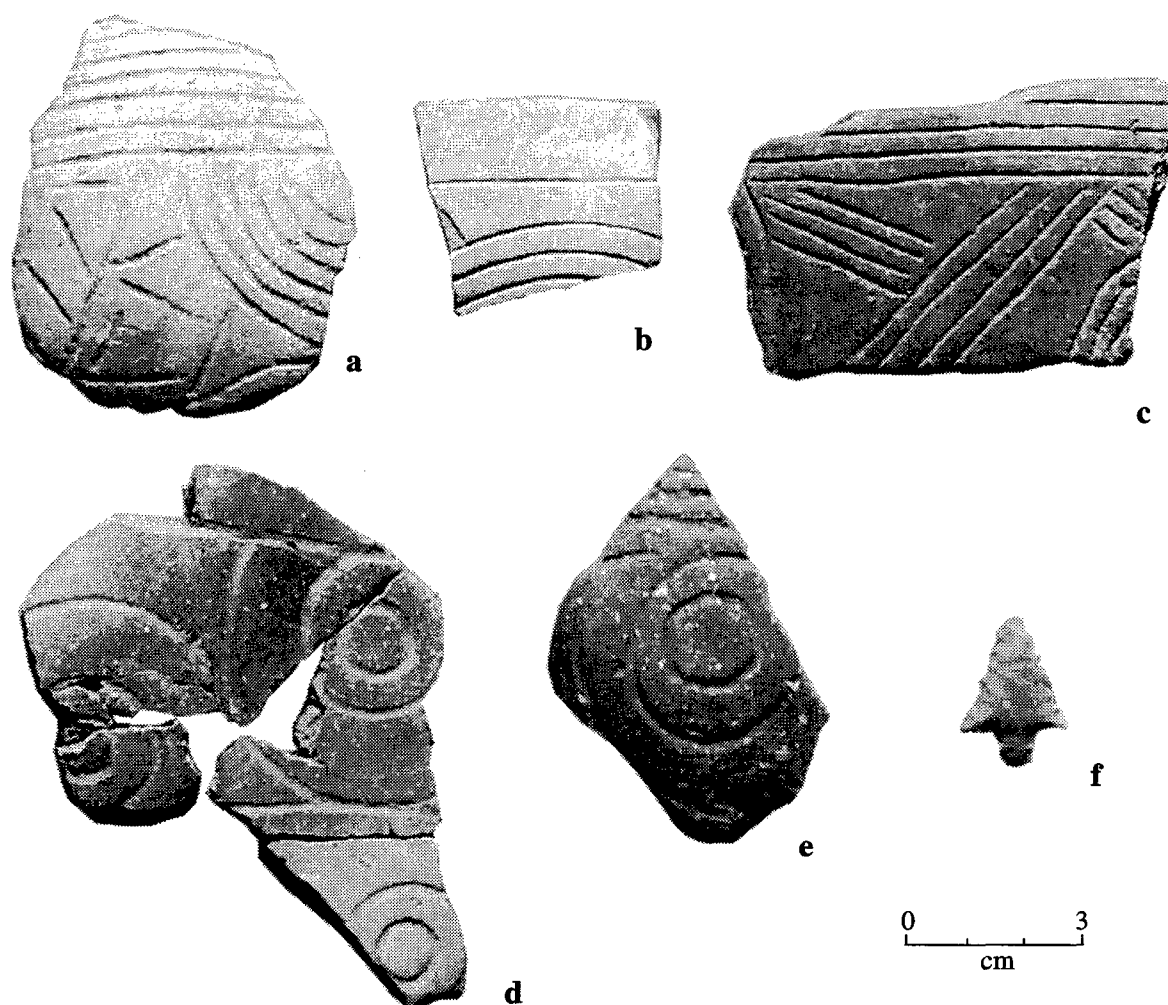
The Kniffen collections are treated as a single entity here. The earliest component suggested by this collection may be in the Marksville period (A.D. 1 - 400), marked by relatively thick, soft and chalky Baytown Plain sherds with little in the way of temper, resembling *var. Marksville*. In the absence of more definite Marksville period markers, however, the first definite component identifiable at the site is from the early Baytown period (ca A.D. 400 - 600), represented by sherds of Marksville Incised, *vars. Anglim* and *Vick*, and by Marksville Stamped, *var. Elm Ridge*. This is followed by an apparent late Baytown (A.D. 600 - 700) occupation, as indicated by sherds of Coles Creek Incised, *vars. Hunt*, *Judd Bayou* and *Jacoby*; Larto Red, *var. Larto*; Mazique Incised, *var. Hendrix*; and a handful of Baytown Plain

rims exhibiting lip lines, similar to the Chase and Keo rim modes. A somewhat stronger component is found in the succeeding early Coles Creek period (A.D. 700 - 800). Early Coles Creek activity at the site is marked by sherds of Avoyelles Punctated, *var. Avoyelles*; Coles Creek Incised, *vars. Serentz* and *Wade*; Evansville Punctated, *vars. Evansville* and *DeVile*; French Fork Incised, *var. French Fork*; Mazique Incised, *var. Mazique*; and Pontchartrain Check Stamped, *var. Pontchartrain*. Additionally, some of the late Baytown markers may also belong to this period, such as *Judd Bayou* and *Larto*.

A middle Coles Creek period component (A.D. 800 - 1000) may be present in the Kniffen collections as well, represented by tentatively identified



**Figure 8-2.** LSU Collections from the Peter Hill site (16IV02). a) Avoyelles Punctated, *var. Dupree*; b) Coles Creek Incised, *var. Blakely*; c) Coles Creek Incised, *var. Hardy*; d) Coles Creek Incised, *var. Hilly Grove*, with diagonal overincision; e) Coles Creek Incised, *var. Wade*; f) Evansville Punctated, *var. Evansville*, red filmed; g) Evansville Punctated, *var. DeVille*; h) Harrison Bayou Incised, *var. Harrison Bayou*; i) Marksville Incised, *var. Vick*; j) Marksville Stamped, *var. Elm Ridge*; k) Mazique Incised, *var. Mazique*; l) Mazique Incised, *var. Manchac*; m) Mazique Incised, *var. Preston*; n) Plaquemine Brushed, *var. Plaquemine*, with overincision; o) Plaquemine Brushed, *var. Blackwater*.



**Figure 8-3.** LSU Collections from the Peter Hill site (16IV02). a) Leland Incised, var. *Foster*; b-c) Fatherland Incised, var. *Nancy*; d) Maddox Engraved, var. *Emerald*; e) Winterville Incised, var. *Belzoni*; f) Alba Stemmed Point.

sherds of Coles Creek Incised, vars. *Blakely* and *Greenhouse*. Several of the early Coles Creek varieties, such as *Mazique*, *Avoyelles*, *Pontchartrain*, and *Evansville*, may be from this occupation as well. The lack of more definitive markers, such as Coles Creek Incised, var. *Mott*, *Mazique* Incised, var. *King's Point*, and the relative dearth of Pontchartrain Check Stamped, casts some doubt on the identification of this time period. It may well prove that the sherds of *Greenhouse* and *Blakely* both fit more easily into the succeeding late Coles Creek occupation.

The terminal end of the Coles Creek period (A.D. 1000 - 1200) is well-represented in Kniffen's collections, and is the first strong occupation at the site. This component is marked by the presence of *Avoyelles*

*Punctated*, var. *Dupree*; Coles Creek Incised, vars. *Hardy* and *Hilly Grove*; Harrison Bayou Incised, var. *Bunkie*; and Plaquemine Brushed, var. *Blackwater*. The strongest component, however, is probably from the succeeding early Mississippi period (A.D. 1200 - 1350). This includes sherds of Baytown Plain, var. *Addis*; Anna Incised, Chicot Red, L'Eau Noire Incised, and Plaquemine Brushed, var. *Plaquemine*. Some of the sherds of Coles Creek Incised, var. *Hardy* may have also been made during this time.

The middle and late portions of the Mississippi period (ca. A.D. 1350 - 1650) are also represented in Kniffen's collections by sherds of Fatherland Incised, vars. *Nancy* and *unspecified*; Maddox Engraved, var. *Emerald*; Leland Incised, var. *Foster*; and

Winterville Incised, *var. Belzoni*. The sherds of *Addis* and *Plaquemine* may also date to this time period, along with Bell Plain, *vars. Greenville* and *St. Catherine*. A handful of Baytown Plain rim sherds with lip lines resemble Haynes Bluff rims, and may also date from this time.

Grouped so closely together in time (1965 - 1972), the remaining collections will be treated here as a single unit. Components in this collection also begin in the Baytown period (A.D. 400 - 700), represented by a single sherd of Marksville Incised, *var. Vick*, and a single example of Larto Red Filmed. It is possible that the sherds of Larto belong to the succeeding early Coles Creek period (A.D. 700 - 800), also represented by sherds of *Mazique* and *Hendrix*. The middle and late phases of the Coles Creek period (A.D. 800 - 1200) are represented as well, by sherds of Coles Creek Incised, *vars. Blakely, Greenhouse, and Hardy*, as well as examples of *Blackwater, Manchac, and Bunkie*. However, most of the sherds in the collection date to the early Mississippi period. This component is represented by *vars. Plaquemine, Harrison Bayou, Sanson, and Addis*, along with Coleman Incised, Anna Incised, and L'Eau Noire Incised. Additionally, many of the sherds of *Manchac* and *Hardy* probably date to this time as well. Middle to late Mississippi period sherds include examples of Bell Plain, *Foster*, and *Emerald*, as well as some of the *Addis, Plaquemine* and *Manchac*.

A later collection from this site was obtained by members of the Baton Rouge Chapter of the LAS between 1979 and 1981 while conducting small-scale test excavations around the base of Mound A. Selected materials from two of the five test pits, plus finds from the field around Mound A, were analyzed by Richard A. Weinstein and Philip G. Rivet in 1982 in preparation for a paper on the excavations presented by Ray Fredlund, Rivet, and Weinstein at the 1982 LAS Annual Meeting in Thibodaux. Several years later this paper was presented as an article in the LAS Newsletter (Fredlund, Rivet and Weinstein 1989). Ceramics from the surface near Mound A and from Test Pits 1 and 3 are included as Tables 1 through 3 of the article. CEI was unable to relocate these sherds at the time of the current study. In lieu of reanalysis of these collections, the published results of the LAS work can be used to identify site components (Tables 8-2 to 8-4).

Unlike earlier collections, the LAS material analyzed by Weinstein is almost devoid of markers

dating before the late Coles Creek period (A.D. 1000 - 1200). A single sherd of *Mazique* may represent the early to middle phases of the Coles Creek period (A.D. 700 - 1000), along with a single example of Pontchartrain Check Stamped. Otherwise, the majority of components in this collection date to the late Coles Creek and early Mississippi (A.D. 1200 - 1350) periods. Late Coles Creek (A.D. 1000 - 1200) sherds include examples of *Harrison Bayou, Hardy, Manchac, Carter Engraved, var. Carter, Evansville Punctated, var. Wilkinson, and Coleman Incised, var. Coleman*. Some sherds of *Manchac, Hardy, Carter, Wilkinson* and *Coleman* may also belong to the succeeding early and middle Mississippi periods, also represented by sherds of *Australia, Plaquemine, Addis, L'Eau Noire Incised, Leland Incised, and Medora Incised*. The examples of *Fatherland Incised* may represent a middle Mississippi or minor late Mississippi period component.

In summary, the earliest component at the Peter Hill site probably dates to the Baytown period, and minor early and middle Coles Creek components follow. The first major component is probably the late Coles Creek period, but the majority of diagnostic ceramics probably date to the early to middle Mississippi periods. Phillips (1970:Figure 447) identified a Delta Natchezan component here, and a late Mississippi period component is certainly present, but the majority of the occupation probably dates to the Medora phase.

#### 16IV5 (Reed Mounds)

##### *Location and Description*

The history of investigations at the Reed site is a relatively long one, a surprising fact given that so little is actually known of the site. The first investigator to write about the site was probably Clarence B. Moore (1913), whose "Mounds on Bayou Grosse Tete" match the location of the site. Moore, who sent an "agent" to Reed, reported two mounds here, one roughly "10 feet in height and about 70 feet in diameter; the other about half that size" (1913:18). High water at the time prevented him from digging here. The site was subsequently visited by Kniffen and Beecher in the 1930's, and then by Robert Neuman and others in 1968. Neuman recorded an area of midden on the east side of the highway, on the west bank of Bayou Grosse Tete (DOA site files). Jones and Shuman (1987:82) visited the site in 1986 while compiling their *Archaeological Atlas*, mapping the full three mounds. Despite having been recorded

Table 8-2. LAS Surface Collections from Peter Hill (16IV2; From Fredlund et al. 1989).

	Surface North of Mound A	Surface South and West of Mound A	Surface	TOTAL
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>				
Baytown Plain				
<i>var. Addis</i>	359	50	45	454
Anna Incised				
<i>var. Australia</i>			1	1
Carter Engraved				
<i>var. Carter</i>	1		1	2
Coleman Incised				
<i>var. unspecified</i>		1	1	2
Coles Creek Incised				
<i>var. Hardy</i>	4		3	7
Evansville Punctated				
<i>var. Wilkinson</i>	1		1	2
Harrison Bayou Incised				
<i>var. Harrison Bayou</i>	2			2
Leland Incised				
<i>var. unspecified</i>			1	1
Maddox Engraved				
<i>var. Emerald</i>	1			1
Mazique Incised				
<i>var. Mazique</i>			1	1
<i>var. Manchac</i>	13		6	19
<i>var. unspecified</i>		1		1
Plaquemine Brushed				
<i>var. Plaquemine</i>	42	2	12	56
Pontchartrain Check Stamped				
<i>var. Pontchartrain</i>	1			1
Unclassified Incised				
straight-line incisions	7	4	4	15
curvilinear incisions	2			2
Unclassified Decorated				
(possibly <i>Manchac</i> )		1		1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>568</b>

almost 90 years ago, no archaeological excavations have ever taken place here.

The mounds appear to have changed little between Jones and Shuman's (1987) visit and today. The three mounds lie on the western natural levee of Bayou Grosse Tete south of the town of the same name. All three are visible on the 1992 Grosse Tete, LA 7.5" quadrangle. Mounds A and B, the smaller of the three, each lie about 60 m from Bayou Grosse Tete, which runs northwest to southeast at this point, while Mound C, the largest, sits about 100 m from the bayou, almost due south of the middle mound, Mound B. Mound A, the northernmost mound, as mapped by Jones and Shuman, is an amorphous, low

mound roughly 100 ft (31 m) in diameter and rising to a height of 4.2 ft (1.3 m). Much of the mound surface is dominated by a large live oak. Mound B is a little over 75 m south of Mound A, and is hardly discernible from the highway. Jones and Shuman reported this to be a roughly rectangular mound, with basal dimensions of 75 by 95 ft (23 by 29 m), rising 3.6 ft (1.1 m) from the surrounding ground surface. The area is overgrown now, making it hard to assess the current condition of the mound. Two modern houses have undoubtedly impacted the western and southern edges of the mound.

Mound C, the largest of the group, is roughly circular at the base [although Jones and Shuman

**Table 8-3. LAS Excavated Collections from the Peter Hill Site (16IV2), Test Pit 1 (Fredlund et al. 1989).**

	Test Pit 1 30-40 cm	Test Pit 1 40-50 cm	Test Pit 1 50-60 cm	TOTAL
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>				
Baytown Plain				
<i>var. Addis</i>	150	282	355	787
Anna Incised				
<i>var. unspecified</i>		2		2
Carter Engraved				
<i>var. Carter</i>		1		1
Coles Creek Incised				
<i>var. Hardy</i>	3	1	2	6
Evansville Punctated				
<i>var. Wilkinson</i>		1		1
Fatherland Incised				
<i>var. Fatherland</i>		1		1
<i>var. unspecified</i>	2	1		3
Harrison Bayou Incised				
<i>var. Harrison Bayou</i>			4	4
L'Eau Noire Incised				
<i>var. Bayou Bourbe</i>		4	2	6
Leland Incised				
<i>var. Blanchard</i>			1	1
<i>var. unspecified</i>			5	5
Maddox Engraved				
<i>var. Emerald</i>	2	2		4
Mazique Incised				
<i>var. Manchac</i>	8	5	1	14
Medora Incised				
<i>var. Medora</i>			1	1
Plaquemine Brushed				
<i>var. Plaquemine</i>	15	28	23	66
<i>var. unspecified</i>			1	1
Unclassified Incised				
straight-line incisions	3	4	6	13
Unclassified Punctated			2	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>918</b>

(1987:82) suggest that the mound was originally rectangular], with a 130 ft (40 m) diameter, and rises to a height of 10.3 ft (3.1 m). The mound is largely covered in trees and brush, and has been used as a convenient place to put trash. The landowner has placed several pigeon coops on the eastern flank of the mound. CEI had originally planned to revisit this site, but the landowner, Agnes Williams, was unwilling to allow us access unless one of her sons

was present, and none of them was able to get time off from work.

#### *Collection Review*

The Reed site is divided into two collections. The first (LSU Catalogue #751) was obtained by Kniffen and Beecher and dated 22 July 1937. The second (LSU Catalogue Nos. 16IV5-1 to 16IV5-5)



**Table 8-4. LAS Excavated Collections from the Peter Hill Site (16IV2), Test Pit 3 (Fredlund et al. 1989).**

	Test Pit 3 0-10 cm	Test Pit 3 10-20 cm	Test Pit 3 20-30 cm	Test Pit 3 30-40 cm	TOTAL
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>					
Baytown Plain					
<i>var. Addis</i>	151	272	38	16	477
Coles Creek Incised					
<i>var. Hardy</i>	1	1			2
Fatherland Incised					
<i>var. unspecified</i>		1			1
Harrison Bayou Incised					
<i>var. Harrison Bayou</i>		1			1
Mazique Incised					
<i>var. Manchac</i>	5			1	6
Plaquemine Brushed					
<i>var. Plaquemine</i>	7	9	10	1	27
Unclassified Incised					
straight-line incisions	2	4			6
Unclassified Punctated				1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>521</b>

was collected by Neuman, Percy, Gatton, and Malcolm Shuman on 21 June 1968. They are combined in Table 8-5. The first component at Reed may be an early to middle Baytown occupation (A.D. 400 - 600), marked by two sherds of Hollyknowe Pinched, *var. unspecified* and a possible sherd of Marksville Incised, *var. Vick*. The late Baytown period (A.D. 600 - 700) provides a more solid collection, producing sherds of Coles Creek Incised, *vars. Richardson* and *Stoner*, Larto Red Filmed, and possibly the Lone Oak and Joffrion rims, although these last two may date to the succeeding Coles Creek period (A.D. 700 - 1200) as well. The early Coles Creek period (A.D. 700 - 800) is also represented by sherds of Chevalier Stamped, *var. Chevalier*, and possibly by sherds of Coles Creek Incised, *var. Phillips*, Rhinehart Punctated and Pontchartrain Check Stamped, *var. Pontchartrain* (Figure 8-4).

The middle Coles Creek period (A.D. 800 - 1000) appears to be the first major component at Reed. Sherds of Cameron Complicated Stamped; Coles Creek Incised, *var. Mott*; Mazique Incised, *var. King's Point*; Pontchartrain Check Stamped, *vars. Crawford Point* and *Tiger Island*; and sherds tentatively identified

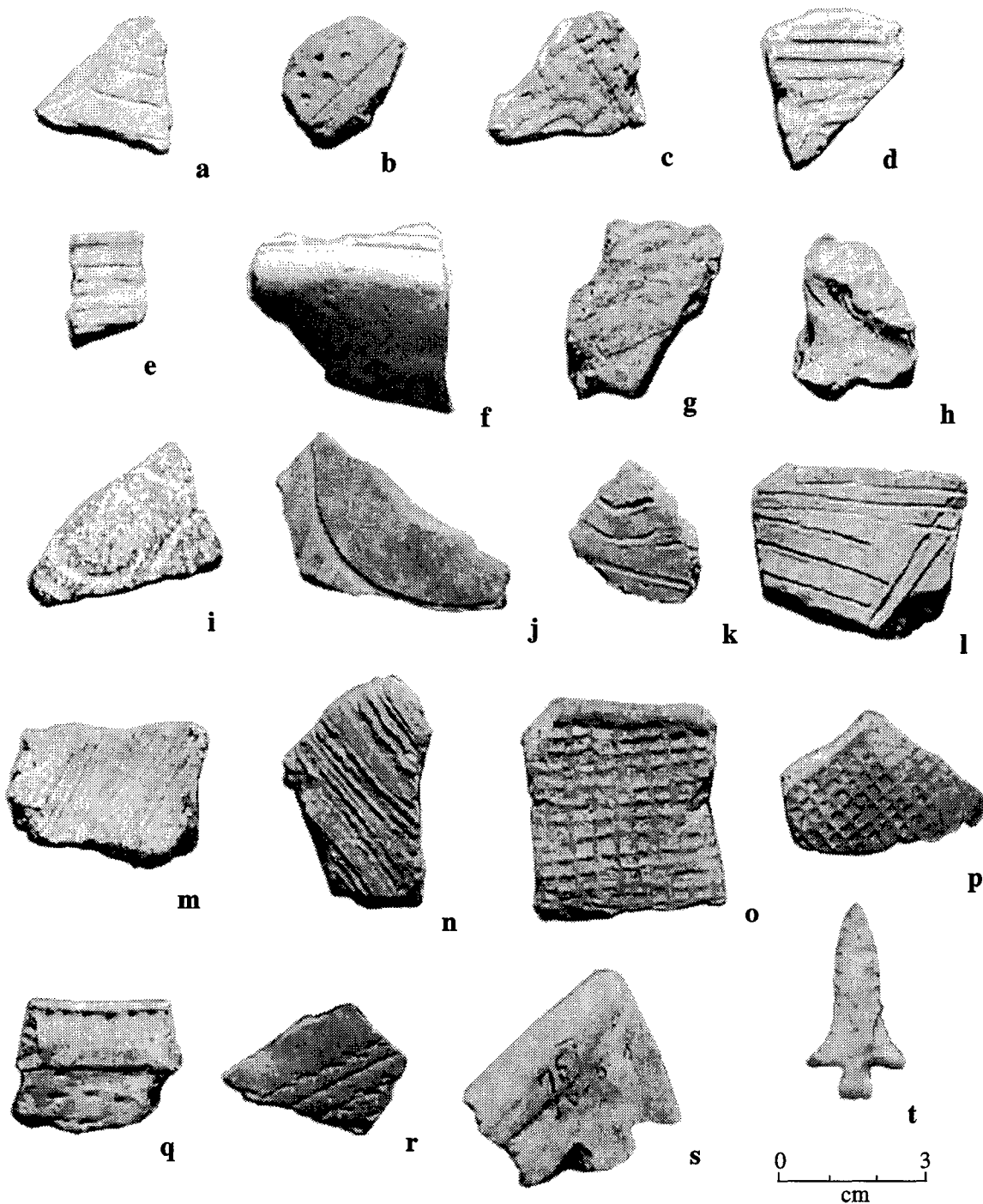
as Baytown Plain, *var. Vicksburg* all probably date to the middle Coles Creek period, and may be contemporary with the sherds of *var. Pontchartrain*, Avoyelles Punctated, Rhinehart Punctated, and Coles Creek Incised, *var. Phillips*. Late Coles Creek (A.D. 1000 - 1200) sherds include Coleman Incised; Coles Creek Incised, *var. Hardy*; Mazique Incised, *var. Manchac*; and Plaquemine Brushed, *var. Blackwater*, although sherds of the first three varieties may also date to the succeeding Mississippi period.

The early Mississippi period (A.D. 1200 - 1350) appears to be the final time span represented at Reed. Sherds of Baytown Plain, *var. Addis*; Anna Incised, *vars. Anna* and *unspecified*; Chicot Red, *var. Chicot*; L'Eau Noire Incised; and Leland Incised, *var. Foster* all probably date to this time. It is more than likely that at least a few of the *Manchac* and *Hardy* sherds, and possibly the sherd of Coleman Incised, belong to this time period as well.

Beyond aboriginal ceramics, the collections include several pieces of faunal material, including five bivalve shells and several unidentified bone fragments. Chert flakes, core fragments and pebbles were

Table 8-5. LSU Collections from the Reed Site (16IV5).

	LSU Catalogue# 751	16IV5-1 to 16IV5-5	TOTAL
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>			
Baytown Plain			
var. <i>Addis</i>	21		21
var. <i>Vicksburg</i>		1	1
var. <i>Vicksburg</i> , carinated bowl	1		1
var. <i>unspecified</i>	148	14	162
var. <i>unspecified</i> , Joffrion rim lug	1		1
var. <i>unspecified</i> , Lone Oak rim	1		1
Anna Incised			
var. <i>Anna</i>	1		1
var. <i>unspecified</i>	1		1
Avoyelles Punctated			
var. <i>unspecified</i>	1		1
Cameron Complicated Stamped			
var. <i>unspecified</i>	1		1
Chevalier Stamped			
var. <i>Chevalier</i>	1		1
Chicot Red			
var. <i>Chicot</i>	2		2
Coleman Incised			
var. <i>unspecified</i>	1		1
Coles Creek Incised			
var. <i>Hardy</i>	1		1
var. <i>Mott</i>	2		2
var. <i>Phillips</i>	5		5
var. <i>Richardson</i>	2		2
var. <i>Stoner</i>	3		3
var. <i>unspecified</i>	4		4
Hollyknowe Ridge Pinched			
var. <i>unspecified</i>	2		2
Larto Red			
var. <i>Larto</i>	1	2	3
L'Eau Noire Incised			
var. <i>unspecified</i>	1		1
Leland Incised			
var. <i>Foster</i>	3		3
Marksville Incised			
var. <i>Vick</i>	1		1
Mazique Incised			
var. <i>King's Point</i>	1		1
var. <i>Manchac</i>	5		5
Plaquemine Brushed			
var. <i>Plaquemine</i>	10		10
var. <i>Blackwater</i>	6		6
Pontchartrain Check Stamped			
var. <i>Pontchartrain</i>	78		78
var. <i>Crawford Point</i>	2		2
var. <i>Tiger Island</i>	9		9
var. <i>unspecified</i>	5		5
Rhinehart Punctated			
var. <i>unspecified</i> , Lone Oak rim	1		1
Unidentified Incised on Baytown Plain			
var. <i>unspecified</i>	8		8
Unidentified Incised and Stamped on Baytown Plain			
var. <i>Vicksburg</i>	1		1
<b>PREHISTORIC LITHICS</b>			
Chert			
Alba Stemmed Point		1	1
Flake	1		1
Core fragment	1		1
Pebble	5	1	6
Unidentified Stone	3		3
<b>FAUNAL REMAINS</b>			
Vertebrate			
Unidentified	10	2	12
Invertebrate			
Bivalve	5		5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>377</b>



**Figure 8-4.** LSU Collections from the Reed Mounds site (16IV05). a) Anna Incised, *var. Anna*; b) Avoyelles Punctated, *var. unspecified*; c) Cameron Complicated Stamped, *var. unspecified*; d) Coles Creek Incised, *var. Hardy*; e) Coles Creek Incised, *var. Mott*; f) Coles Creek Incised, *var. Mott*, carinated bowl; g) Chevalier Stamped, *var. Chevalier*; h) Hollyknowe Ridge Pinched, *var. unspecified*; i-k) Leland Incised, *var. Foster*; l) Mazique Incised, *var. Manchac*; m-n) Plaquemine Brushed, *var. Plaquemine*; o-p) Pontchartrain Check Stamped, *var. Pontchartrain*; q) Rhinehart Punctated, *var. unspecified*; r) Unidentified Incised and Stamped on Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*; s) Joffrion rim on Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*; t) Alba Stemmed Point.

also noted, as well as an Alba Stemmed Point. The latter was a moderately well-made example on tan cobble chert, and probably has a Mississippi period date.

The strongest components at Reed date to the middle and late Coles Creek and early Mississippi periods. However, the earliest ceramics appear to have been produced during the early to middle Baytown periods, and late Baytown and early Coles Creek components appear to be present as well. Phillips (1970:Figure 446) placed a Bayou Cutler phase component here, and the LSU collections indicate that this may indeed be one of the northernmost Bayou Cutler/Bayou Ramos continuum sites in south Louisiana. However, the Delta Natchezan component identified by Phillips (1970:Figure 447) was not evident in these collections.

#### **16IV7 (Mays Place Camp or Trinity Plantation)**

##### ***Location and Description***

Kniffen and Beecher first recorded the Mays Place Camp or Trinity Plantation site in 1937, taking a small surface collection. McIntire visited the site in 1954 and obtained a second collection, followed by Weinstein and Burden in 1975 and subsequently Jones and Shuman (1987). It was not visited at the time of the current study, although it was noted in daily travel up and down Bayou Grosse Tete. The site is located on the western natural levee of Bayou Grosse Tete south-

west the junction of Louisiana Highways 76 and 77. Since the 1840's the mound has been dominated by a large plantation home which occupies most of the top surface. The presence and construction of the two-story house are bound to have impacted the mound, as Jones and Shuman (1987:101) have noted. The mound itself is a large, flat-topped pyramidal construction, with well-defined corners, measuring 140 by 120 ft (43 by 37 m). The mound rises to a height of at least 4.4 ft (1.3 m), although Jones and Shuman were unable to map much of the mound summit due to the house.

##### ***Collection Review***

Two small collections were available from LSU for the Mays Place Camp site, the first collected by Kniffen and Beecher in 1937 and bearing Catalogue No. 747 (Table 8-6). The second was a slightly larger, uncatalogued collection of unknown date. This is, presumably, either the McIntire collection taken in 1954 or the sherds picked up by Weinstein and Burden in 1975. No name was associated with this collection of largely plain sherds, which produced a single example of Chicot Red. The collection taken by Kniffen was a bit more diagnostic, including sherds of *Addis*, *Hardy*, and *Manchac*, which probably date to the Mississippi period, although they could be derived from a late Coles Creek component as well. A Mississippi period date is bolstered by the Chicot Red from the previous collection and two sherds of Mississippi Plain.

**Table 8-6. LSU Collections from the Mays Place Camp Site (16IV7).**

	Uncatalogued Collection	LSU Catalogue# 747	TOTAL
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>			
Baytown Plain			
<i>var. Addis</i>		1	1
<i>var. unspecified</i>	19	13	32
Mississippi Plain			
<i>var. unspecified</i>		2	2
Chicot Red			
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1		1
Coles Creek Incised			
<i>var. Hardy</i>		1	1
Mazique Incised			
<i>var. Manchac</i>		1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>38</b>

**16IV9 (Church Mound)****Location and Description**

Fred Kniffen recorded the Church Mound in 1937, a small mound on the western natural levee of Bayou Grosse Tete. The site lies just south of Interstate 10, just north of Mount Olive Church, and is visible on the 1954 Grosse Tete, LA 7.5 quadrangle. At some point, however, the mound was recorded at a spot 500 to 600 m north by northwest of the church, and subsequent investigators failed to correct the error. Weinstein and Burden visited the recorded location of the site in 1975 and noted that no mound existed there. To compound the confusion, someone at an unknown date recorded the actual location of the mound as 16IV20, the Mount Olive Church Mound. Malcolm Shuman, who visited the mound in 1968 with Neuman when it was known as 16IV9, was able to consult his notes in researching the Mount Olive Church Mound in 1985 and conclude beyond a doubt that the two were the same (Jones and Shuman 1987:126). CEI has followed the original assignment of names and numbers, preferring to keep the designation "Church Mound" and the lower site number.

The site was not visited by the current study, although it was noted in travels along Highway 76. Jones and Shuman (1987:113) noted the mound had basal dimensions of 85 by 70 ft (26 by 21 m), and stood to a height of 4.7 ft (1.4 m). The mound has been damaged somewhat by the construction of Highway 77, but the majority of damage to the mound has probably come from the historic burials on the mound flanks and crest.

**Collection Review**

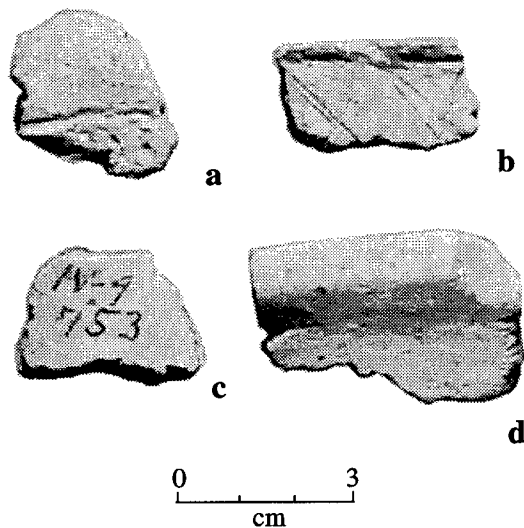
Kniffen and Beecher took a very small collection (five sherds) from the Church Mound in 1937. Subsequently, Neuman, Gatton, Shuman and Percy visited the site in 1968 and managed to collect two sherds. The presence of Harrison Bayou Incised, *var. Harrison Bayou* and French Fork Incised, *var. Larkin* appear to suggest some Coles Creek period (A.D. 700 - 1200) activity at the site, while sherds of *Addis* may indicate a somewhat later occupation (Table 8-7 and Figure 8-5).

**16PC1 (Livonia)****Location and Description**

The Livonia site lies on the eastern natural levee of Bayou Grosse Tete north of the town of the same name, less than 200 m south of the confluence of Bayou Grosse Tete and Bayou Fordoche. It is possible that three mounds once existed here; today, only a single large conical mound survives, a 9 m tall construction with a basal diameter of 50 m. Another mound was located about 70 m to the southeast, but is now only marked by a scatter of *Rangia* shells and a low rise. Its original dimensions are unknown. Jones and Shuman (1987:131) encountered informants who told them that a third mound once existed south of the conical mound, but no sign of this could be found. The site was first reported by Fred Kniffen in 1937, and later visited by Weinstein and Burden in 1975. Jones and Shuman (1987) included it in their *Archaeological Atlas* after visiting and mapping the site.

**Table 8-7. LSU Collections from the Church Mound Site (16IV9).**

	LSU Cat. # 753	16IV9-1 to 16IV9-3	TOTAL
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>			
Baytown Plain			
<i>var. Addis</i>	2		2
<i>var. unspecified</i>	2	1	3
French Fork Incised			
<i>var. Larkin</i>		1	1
Harrison Bayou Incised			
<i>var. Harrison Bayou</i>	1		1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>



**Figure 8-5.** LSU Collections from the Church Mound site (16IV09). These sherds represent the complete collection. a) French Fork Incised, *var. Larkin*; b) Harrison Bayou Incised, *var. Harrison Bayou*; c) Baytown Plain, *var. Addis*; d) Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*.

### Collection Review

The Livonia collections from LSU are divided into three parts; Kniffen and Beecher probably took the first collections here in 1937 (Catalogue Nos. 708, 758), but the provenience of the other two (Catalogue Nos. 19626 and 16PC1-1 through 16PC1-9) is not certain (Table 8-8). A fourth collection (Catalogue No. 19642) is also believed to come from 16PC1, but the catalogue card included with these artifacts reads "Tipton site," a designation which does not seem to exist for any site in the Louisiana Division of Archaeology files. It is treated separately below (Table 8-9).

The earliest component evinced by the Kniffen and Beecher collections is probably the early to middle Coles Creek period (A.D. 700 - 1000), which may include the sherds of Pontchartrain Check Stamped, Avoyelles Punctated, *var. Avoyelles*, and Chevalier Stamped, *var. Cornelia* (Figure 8-6). A middle Coles Creek (A.D. 800 - 1000) component is bolstered by the presence of Beldeau Incised, *var. Beldeau*, and Mazique Incised, *var. King's Point*. A late Coles Creek (A.D. 1000 - 1200) occupa-

tion is more strongly represented by sherds of Harrison Bayou Incised, *vars. Harrison Bayou* and *Bunkie*, and Mazique Incised, *var. Preston*. The succeeding early Mississippi period (A.D. 1200 - 1450) is the strongest component in this collection. Early Mississippi (Medora phase) material includes sherds of *Addis*, Anna Incised, Carter Engraved, and L'Eau Noire Incised. Probably included are many of the sherds of *Hardy*, *Manchac*, and *Plaquemine*, although some of these may date to the preceding late Coles Creek period.

These components are borne out by the second and third collections, Catalogue Nos. 19626 and 16PC1—1 through 16PC1—9. A Baytown period component (A.D. 400 - 700) is suggested by sherds of Alligator Incised, Chevalier Stamped, *var. McKinney*, and Larto Red Filmed. The sherds of *McKinney* and Larto may also belong to the succeeding early Coles Creek Period (A.D. 700 - 800). The early to middle Coles Creek period (A.D. 700 - 1000) is also represented by sherds of Chevalier Stamped, *var. Chevalier*; Rhinehart Punctated; Mazique Incised, *var. King's Point*; and Pontchartrain Check Stamped. A sherd of Coles Creek Incised, *var. Mott* may belong to the middle or late Coles Creek period, as may the sherd of Beldeau Incised, *var. Beldeau*. The late Coles Creek period (A.D. 1000 - 1200) is a stronger presence in these collections, including sherds of Beldeau Incised, *var. Beldeau*, Coles Creek Incised, *var. Hilly Grove*, Mazique Incised, *var. Preston*, Plaquemine Brushed, *var. Blackwater*, and Harrison Bayou Incised, *var. Bunkie*. Sherds of *Manchac*, *Plaquemine*, and *Hardy* probably belong to the early Mississippi period, although some may date to the late Coles Creek period. Again, the early Mississippi period (Medora phase) component is probably strongest, represented by sherds of Anna Incised, Carter Engraved, *Harrison Bayou*, *Bayou Bourbe*, and *Addis*. These collections also contain faunal material, daub, and lithics, which include flakes of tan cobble chert and a piece of hematite.

Pottery from Catalogue No. 19642 ("Tipton site") also bears out a Coles Creek component, seen in sherds of Pontchartrain Check Stamped (Table 8-9). A terminal Coles Creek (A.D. 1000 - 1200) or early Mississippi phase (A.D. 1200 - 1350) component is also evinced by sherds of *Addis*, *Hardy*, *Manchac*, and *Plaquemine*. The early Mississippi Medora phase is bolstered by the presence of Anna Incised, *vars. Australia* and *Evangeline*. If this collection does not come from the mounds at Livonia, then it is certainly derived from a contemporary site.

Table 8-8. LSU Collections from the Livonia Site (16PC1).

	LSU Cat. #s 708, 758	LSU Cat. # 19626	16PC1-1 to 16PC1-9	TOTAL
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>				
Baytown Plain				
<i>var. Addis</i>	39	33	1	73
<i>var. unspecified</i>	59	85	6	150
Alligator Incised				
<i>var. unspecified</i>		2		2
Anna Incised				
<i>var. Anna</i>	2	4		6
<i>var. Australia</i>	1	9		10
<i>var. Evangeline</i>	1	7		8
<i>var. unspecified</i>		1		1
Avoyelles Punctated				
<i>var. Avoyelles</i>	1			1
Beldeau Incised				
<i>var. Beldeau</i>		1		1
Carter Engraved				
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1	2		3
Chevalier Stamped				
<i>var. Chevalier</i>		2		2
<i>var. Cornelia</i>	2			2
<i>var. McKinney</i>		1		1
<i>var. unspecified</i>		1		1
Coles Creek Incised				
<i>var. Hardy</i>	2	5	1	8
<i>var. Hilly Grove</i>		3		3
<i>var. Mott</i>		1		1
<i>var. Phillips</i>		2		2
<i>var. unspecified</i>		5		5
Harrison Bayou Incised				
<i>var. Harrison Bayou</i>	3			3
<i>var. Bunkie</i>	2			2
Larto Red				
<i>var. Larto</i>		1		1
L'Eau Noire Incised				
<i>var. Bayou Bourbe</i>		1		1
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1			1
Mazique Incised				
<i>var. King's Point</i>	1	1		2
<i>var. Manchac</i>	6	13		19
<i>var. Preston</i>	1	1		2
Plaquemine Brushed				
<i>var. Plaquemine</i>	16	4	4	24
<i>var. Blackwater</i>		7		7
Pontchartrain Check Stamped				
<i>var. Pontchartrain</i>	7	22		29
Rhinehart Punctated				
<i>var. unspecified</i>		1		1
Unidentified Incised on Baytown Plain,				
<i>var. unspecified</i>	3	2		5
<b>PREHISTORIC LITHICS</b>				
Chert				
flakes		4		4
Haematite		1		1
<b>PREHISTORIC OTHER</b>				
Daub			1	1
<b>FAUNAL REMAINS</b>				
Vertebrate				
Unidentified Large Mammal		41		41
Invertebrate				
Freshwater shell	1			1
<b>HISTORIC GLASS</b>				
Container glass				
Unidentified Manufacturing Technique				
Green			1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>425</b>

Table 8-9. LSU Collections, Probably from the Livonia Site (16PC1).

	Cat. # 19642 Card Reads "Tipton Site"
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>	
Baytown Plain	
<i>var. Addis</i>	41
<i>var. unspecified</i>	85
Anna Incised	
<i>var. Australia</i>	2
<i>var. Evangeline</i>	2
Coles Creek Incised	
<i>var. Hardy</i>	1
Mazique Incised	
<i>var. Manchac</i>	1
Plaquemine Brushed	
<i>var. Plaquemine</i>	10
Pontchartrain Check Stamped	
<i>var. Pontchartrain</i>	2
Unidentified Incised on Baytown Plain	
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1
Unidentified Punctated on Baytown Plain	
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1
<b>PREHISTORIC LITHICS</b>	
Quartzite	
Grinding Stone Fragment	1
<b>FAUNAL REMAINS</b>	
Vertebrate	
Unidentified vertebrate	35
Invertebrate	
Unidentified bivalve	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>185</b>

In summary, although the Livonia site was apparently occupied in the Baytown period, the first major phases of occupation begin in the early and middle Coles Creek periods. The late Coles Creek period is well-represented, but the primary occupation at the site probably dates to the early Mississippi period. This site probably does not fit well in the coastal Coles Creek Bayou Cutler or Bayou Ramos phases, despite Phillips' (1970:Figure 446) identification of a Bayou Cutler phase component here. Additionally, although Phillips (1970:Figure 447) also identified Livonia as a Delta Natchezan site, no evidence was found for this phase in the LSU collections.

#### 16PC6 (Thom)

##### *Location and Description*

This large mound group, consisting of between six and seven mounds, was not recorded as a pre-

historic site until March of 1971, when it was visited by William Haag, Fred Kniffen, James B. Griffin, and Robert Neuman. They recorded three, and possibly four low mounds on the western natural levee of Bayou Fordoche, north of the town of Fordoche. Dennis Jones mapped, collected, and briefly tested the site as part of an independent study course at LSU, providing most of the information currently known about the site (Jones and Shuman 1987:150-156).

Mounds A through E are arranged around a large plaza measuring 113 by 55 m. Mound A is the largest of the group, a 40 m diameter, 2.4 m tall construction lying at the north end of the plaza. Mound B through D have been severely plow-damaged, and each stand less than a meter tall. Mound D, at the opposite end of the plaza from Mound A, was probably considerably larger at one time; its current basal dimensions are roughly 63 by 32 m. Mound E, at the west edge of the plaza, is now the second-larg-



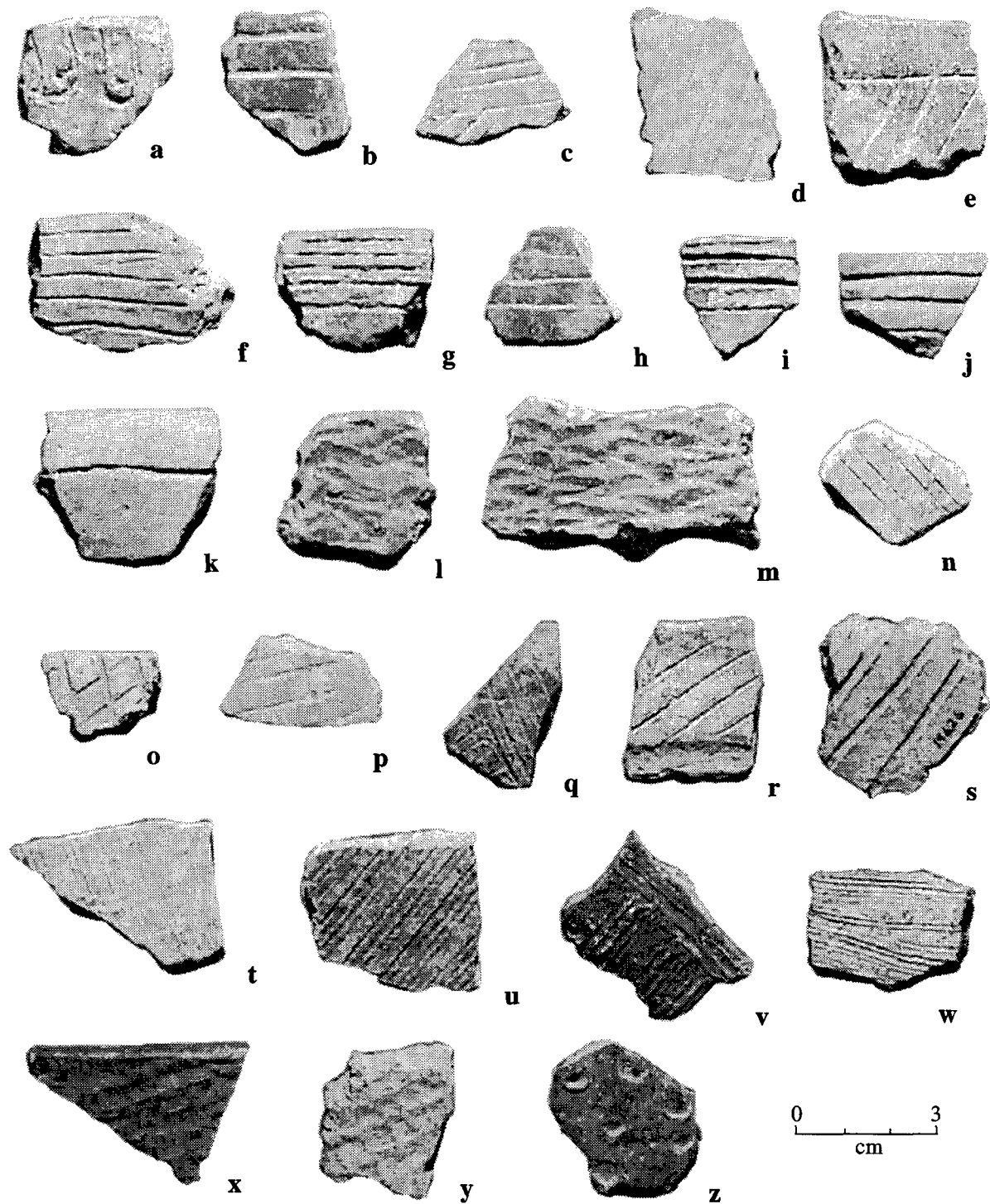


Figure 8-6. LSU Collections from the Livonia Mounds site (16PC01). a-b) Anna Incised, *var. Anna*; c-e) Anna Incised, *var. Evangeline*; f-h) Anna Incised, *var. Australia*; i-j) Coles Creek Incised, *var. Hardy*; k) Coles Creek Incised, *var. Phillips*; l) Chevalier Stamped, *var. Chevalier*; m) Chevalier Stamped, *var. McKinney*; n-o) Harrison Bayou Incised, *var. Bunkie*; p) L'Eau Noire Incised, *var. Bayou Bourbe*; q) Mazique Incised, *var. Preston*; r-s) Mazique Incised, *var. Manchac*; t-v) Plaquemine Brushed, *var. Plaquemine*; w) Plaquemine Brushed, *var. Blackwater*; x-y) Pontchartrain Check Stamped, *var. Pontchartrain*; z) Rhinehart Punctated, *var. unspecified*.

Table 8-10. LSU Collections from the Thom Site (16PC6).

	MOUND A 16PC6- 1 to 7, 16PC11- 12	MOUND B 16PC6- 8 to 16PC6- 10, 13	MOUND C 16PC6- 14 to 16PC6- 15	MOUND D 16PC6 - 16 to 16PC- 23	TOTAL
<b>PREHISTORIC CERAMICS</b>					
Baytown Plain					
<i>var. Addis</i>	1	0	0	4	5
<i>var. Little River (?)</i>	37	0	1	11	49
<i>var. unspecified</i>	54	7	9	102	172
Bell Plain					
<i>var. Greenville</i>	6	0	0	0	6
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1	0	0	0	1
Mississippi Plain					
<i>var. unspecified</i>	2	0	0	0	2
Avoyelles Punctated					
<i>var. Tatum (?)</i>	1	0	0	0	1
Beldeau Incised					
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1	0	0	0	1
Coles Creek Incised					
<i>var. Hardy</i>	1	0	0		1
<i>var. Mott (?)</i>	0	0	0	1	1
L'Eau Noire Incised					
<i>var. Bayou Bourbe</i>	0	0	0	1	1
Leland Incised					
<i>var. Deep Bayou</i>	0	0	0	2	2
<i>var. Williams</i>	1	0	0	0	1
<i>var. unspecified</i>	3	0	0	1	4
Mazique Incised					
<i>var. Manchac</i>	3	0	0	2	5
<i>var. unspecified</i>	1	0	0	0	1
Plaquemine Brushed					
<i>var. Plaquemine</i>	0	0	0	8	8
Unclassified Incised on Baytown Plain,					
<i>var. unspecified</i>	0	0	0	1	1
Unclassified Zoned Punctated on Bell Plain,					
<i>var. St. Catherine</i>	2	0	0	0	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>264</b>

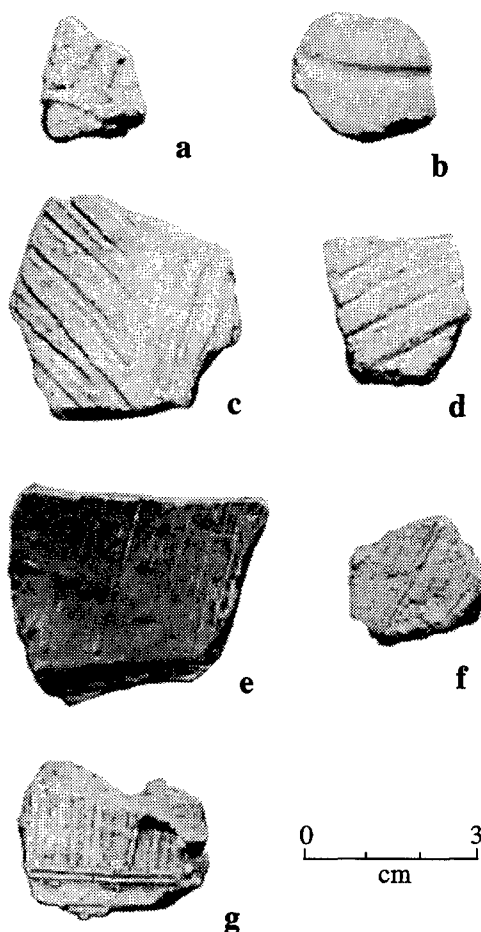
est mound at the site, with a diameter of approximately 24 m and a height of 1.4 m. Mound F is a low rise to the northwest of Mound A, outside the plaza, rising less than a half meter from the surrounding field. Another rise, which may be a mound, has been given the designation Mound G, and is located between Mound A and Mound F. Mound G is currently less than a foot tall. Six borrow pits can be identified outside the plaza on the site, three in the vicinity of Mounds A and E, one just southwest of Mound E, one south of Mound D, and one just east of Mound C. The Thom site was reported to be in cultivation in 1987 when Jones and Shuman updated the state site file, but it was not visited during the current study.

#### Collection Review

The first collection from the site was not obtained until Robert Neuman picked up a small sample of material from Mounds A and B on July 6, 1971

(LSU Catalogue Nos. 16PC6-1 to 10). This was followed by another small collection from around Mound A, obtained by Thomas Ryan, Neuman, and Glen Fredlund on May 17, 1976 (Catalogue Nos. 16PC6-11 to 12). The final collection was obtained several years later by Dennis Jones, Neuman, and Bryan Guevin in April 1983 (Catalogue Nos. 16 PC 6—13 to 29). This latter collection resulted from the research conducted by Jones for his independent study course at LSU. The site was mapped, surface collections from areas around Mounds B, C, and D were obtained, and two test pits were dug into Mounds D and F (Jones and Shuman 1987:151).

Since there is no doubt that the collections at LSU all came from the same site, and since there is no problem concerning the association of the portions of each collection with a specific mound, all of the surface material has been combined for presentation (Table 8-10 and Figure 8-7). The data from the two test pits has not been tabulated, since so few



**Figure 8-7.** LSU Collections from the Thom site (16PC06). a) L'Eau Noire Incised, var. Bayou Bourbe; b) Leland Incised, var. Deep Bayou; c-d) Mazique Incised, var. Manchac; f-g) Plaquemine Brushed, var. Plaquemine.

items are included (five sherds of Baytown Plain, var. *unspecified* from Mound D and three sherds of Baytown Plain, var. *unspecified* from Mound F) and the stratigraphic association of the material is not known (there are no profiles or excavation notes with the LSU catalogue records).

As can be seen in the table, there are only a few sherds from Mounds B and C, providing virtually no information on the possible dates of those structures. Mounds A and D, however, yielded several diagnostic sherds. Mound A yielded 114 sherds that suggest an initial use of the area during the late Coles Creek period (A.D. 1000 - 1200). The sherds of *Addis*, *Hardy*, and *Manchac*, and the possible sherds of *Tatum*

and *Little River* probably mark this occupation. The *Little River* sherds are thin and well made, but "look" a bit later than typical *Little River*, suggesting that they probably are part of the late Coles Creek assemblage. Although the sample is not particularly large, the lack of *Plaquemine* may indicate that the occupation is early within the late Coles Creek period (ca. A.D. 1000 to 1100). This occupation was followed by one of the early Mississippi period (ca. A.D. 1200 to 1350), and can be recognized by the sherds of *Greenville* and the *unspecified* examples of Leland Incised. The sherds of Bell Plain and Mississippi Plain may also be part of this component, but it is more likely that they represent later items dating to the middle and/or late Mississippi period (ca. A.D. 1350 to 1650). The sherd of *Williams* certainly belongs to this time period, while the unclassified zoned punctated sherd probably dates to the latter part of this time range, if not even later during protohistoric or historic times (ca. A.D. 1650 to 1800).

The occupational story for Mound D is similar, again with an initial usage of the area during late Coles Creek times. In this case, however, there are several sherds of *Plaquemine*, suggesting that occupation occurred throughout the entire late Coles Creek period (ca. A.D. 1000 to 1200). Other sherds probably indicative of that time include the examples of *Addis* and *Manchac*, plus the possible sherds of *Little River* and *Mott*. An early Mississippi period occupation (ca. A.D. 1200 to 1350) can be recognized by the sherd of *Bayou Bourbe*, the *unspecified* sherd of Leland Incised, and probably some of the *Plaquemine*. Lastly, a minor middle or late Mississippi period component (ca. A.D. 1350 to 1550) can be identified by the sherds of var. *Deep Bayou*.

In addition to the aboriginal ceramics, the collections from the Thom site include numerous pieces of fired clay, most coming from Mounds A and D. Many of these probably are fragments of daub. Also present are three primary chert flakes, two secondary chert flakes, and a fire spall from Mound A, a piece of blocky chert debitage from Mound D, and a freshwater mussel shell valve from Mound C.

Overall, the aboriginal ceramics from the site indicate a relatively late occupation, extending from the late Coles Creek period to the late Mississippi period, possibly into protohistoric or historic times. This is similar to the interpretation given by Jones and Shuman (1987:151) in their discussion of the locale.

## CHAPTER 9

# CONCLUSIONS

### *Results of the Sample Survey*

The sample survey of the Lower Atchafalaya Backwater area examined 500 ac (202.5 ha) within an area of approximately 335 mi<sup>2</sup> (539 km<sup>2</sup>). This represents a little more than 0.2 percent of the total study area, and 0.6 percent of the 89,699 ac of exposed natural levee deposits within the study area. While this is a very small sample from which to make generalizations, even samples of this size may provide useful information about areas in which there have been few previous systematic surveys.

### *Site Densities*

The sample survey located 47 sites, 19 of which contained prehistoric components and 46 of which had historic components. This yields a density of one site per 10.6 ac (4.3 ha); one prehistoric site per 26.3 ac (10.7 ha), and one historic site per 10.9 ac (4.4 ha). Table 9-1 presents comparable data from three other large-scale surveys conducted in this region (Figure 9-1), the Terrebonne Marsh sample survey (Weinstein and Kelley 1992), the Golden Ranch surveys (Hunter et al. 1988; Pearson et al. 1989), and the Lower Atchafalaya Backwater sample survey (Kelley et al. 2000). The Terrebonne survey examined an area of 3000 ac (1215 ha) immediately south of the Lower Atchafalaya Backwater area, but less than half of that area, 1491.7 ac (604 ha), was situated on natural levee deposits. In order to make the data from that survey comparable to the present study only the re-

sults from the natural levee portion of the survey are shown in Table 9-1. The Golden Ranch surveys, conducted over three years, covered a total of 4621 ac (1871 ha) located southeast of the present study area on crevasse deposits associated with the Lafourche delta complex. The final study, the Lower Atchafalaya Backwater Survey, included a large [1800 ac (729 ha)] sample survey of natural levee and crevasse features on the Mississippi River and Bayou Lafourche.

The Terrebonne Marsh data exhibit a much lower total site density than the present study, and both prehistoric and historic occupations occur at a much lower density in the Terrebonne Marsh. Overall, the differences between the two sets of data may be related primarily to the greater impact of subsidence and land loss on the Terrebonne Marsh area. This has effectively limited historic settlement of the area and made it more difficult to locate prehistoric sites as well.

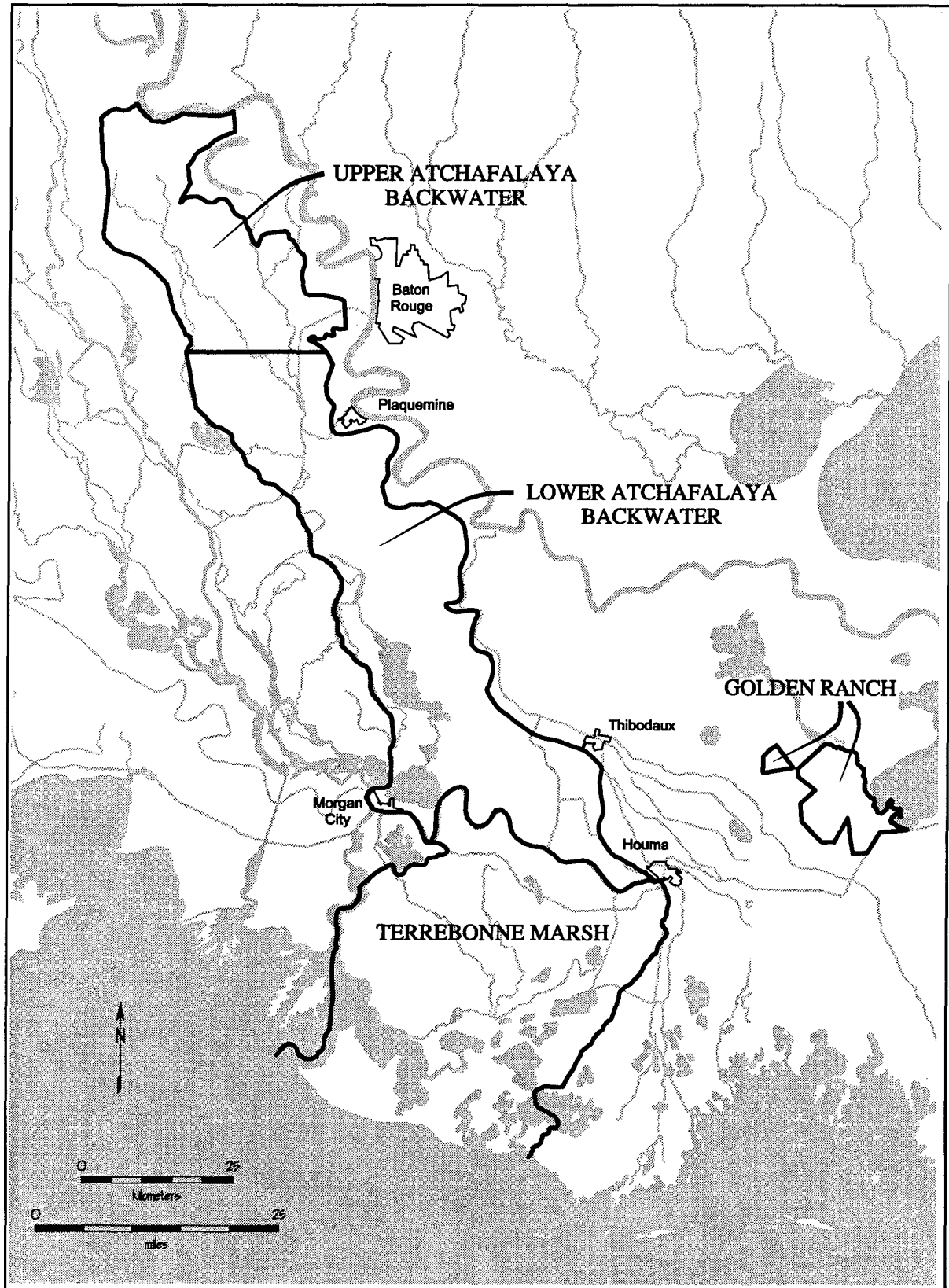
The Golden Ranch data exhibit a similar total site density to the present study, but behind that similarity lie some interesting differences. Historic occupations occur at a much higher density in the current study area, while prehistoric sites occur at a somewhat higher density, dependent on which study is used for comparison. The 1988 Golden Ranch data varies from that pattern in that it exhibits an historic site density closer to the current study, but in that year the surveyors focused on historic sites

Table 9-1. Site Density by Project.

Project	Area (acres)	No. Sites	No. Prehistoric Components	No. Historic Components	Total Density (1 Site/acres)	Density Prehistoric	Density Historic	Density (ac Historic)
Golden Ranch (1987)	1482	55	48	13	27	31	114	
Golden Ranch (1988)	2134	48	18	33	44	119	65	
Golden Ranch (1989)	1005	34	24	10	30	42	100	
Golden Ranch (Total)	4621	137	90	56	34	51	83	
Terrebonne Marsh	1492	13	8	6	115	186	249	
Lower Atchafalaya Backwater	1800	52	15	48	35	120	38	
Current Study	500	47	19	46	11	26	11	

Note:

\* Includes only the area of natural levee.



**Figure 9-1. The Terrebonne Marsh, Golden Ranch, Lower Atchafalaya Backwater, and Upper Atchafalaya Backwater study regions.**

to a certain extent (Pearson et al. 1989:126), probably biasing the sample somewhat. For that reason it is probably best to use the combined Golden Ranch data. The differences between the Golden Ranch and Upper Atchafalaya Backwater data are probably related to subtle differences in the environmental settings of the two areas. Golden Ranch is located on the middle and lower portions of a delta lobe associated with the Lafourche delta complex. This area was apparently ideal for late prehistoric settlement, but it experienced more restricted occupation during the historic period probably due to its relatively isolated location and to the small size of the exposed natural levees. In contrast, the Upper Atchafalaya Backwater survey examined areas on the upper portions of a single distributary system, which apparently saw even heavier occupation than the Golden Ranch area during prehistoric times. The current study area also maintained extensive historic period settlement, probably due to the size of the combined Maringouin/Grosse Tete natural levee deposits, and accessibility of the area to the False River and Mississippi River levees via Bayou Fardoche.

The sample survey for the Lower Atchafalaya Backwater Survey area, contiguous with the current study area, focused on the backside of the Mississippi/Lafourche natural levee as well as crevasses coming off these levees. The current study proved much more productive in terms of site densities than the Lower Backwater survey. Prehistoric density, in particular, is much higher in the Upper Backwater area. Apparently, the upper end of the Fardoche distributary system was much more attractive in terms of settlement than the main Mississippi/Lafourche levee system. This may be due to the exclusion of the trunk levee crest from the Lower Backwater study. However, the fact remains that very few Native American sites were recorded on the Mississippi/

Lafourche levees prior to the Lower Backwater survey, and virtually no mound sites from the mouth of the Lafourche down to the termination of the channel. The higher density of prehistoric sites in the Upper Backwater area is somewhat surprising. However, this may, again, be due in part to the lack of sample units on the trunk levee in the Lower Backwater survey, as well as the selection of some sample units away from crevasse channel levee crests. Beyond possible sample biases, it is also important to remember that the Fardoche distributary system of the Upper Backwater area provides wide natural levees and light, moderately well-drained soils. These areas are associated with a smaller risk of catastrophic flooding than the Mississippi/Lafourche levees as well as a higher degree of biodiversity. Political and defensive considerations may come into play as well, as the Fardoche system is not as accessible from the trunk channel.

It is also possible to develop density estimates for specific culture periods using the sample survey data. Table 9-2 presents data for two prehistoric periods and two historic periods from the present study, and comparable data from the Golden Ranch, Lower Atchafalaya Backwater, and Terrebonne Marsh surveys. The present study exhibits higher site densities than the Golden Ranch data for both of the prehistoric periods, and the Terrebonne Marsh densities are consistently the lowest. There are increases in site density from the Coles Creek period to the Mississippi period in both the Golden Ranch data and the present study; however, chi-square tests indicate that these differences are not statistically significant between regions. The historic period data present a very different pattern. The present study has much higher historic site density than either the Golden Ranch data or the Terrebonne Marsh data, and there is a dramatic increase in post-bellum/industrial sites

**Table 9-2. Site Density by Culture Period (one site/acres).**

Project	Coles	Creek	Mississippi	Early	American	Postbellum and Modern
Golden Ranch (Total)	220		201		578	81
Terrebonne Marsh	373		373		-	249
Lower Atchafalaya Backwater	300		225		72	44
Current Study	125		39		50	11

**Table 9-3. Projected Site Frequencies in the Study Area.**

	No. Sites
All Sites	8432
Prehistoric	3409
Coles Creek	718
Mississippi	2332
Historic	8154
Early American	1794
Postbellum and Modern	8154

over antebellum sites. While this increase is significantly larger in this area than in the Lower Atchafalaya Backwater study area ( $X^2=5.94$ ,  $df=1$ ), this increase is not statistically different from trends in the Golden Ranch study area.

#### *Site Frequencies*

Assuming that the site density estimates derived from the sample survey are representative of the entire study area, they can be used to project the number of sites present in the area by using Britsch's (1998:4) estimate of 89,699 acres (36,328 ha) of surficial natural levee in the study area (Table 9-3). These figures are approximations at best, and for the specific time periods represent numbers of components.

#### *Site Significance*

Table 9-4 summarizes information on the significance of the 50 sites visited during the present study. Fifteen sites are considered potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, but require additional investigation before they can be fully evaluated. Thirty-three sites are not considered eligible. These have been extensively disturbed by years of cultivation. An additional two sites could not be fully evaluated due to access problems.

By using the sample survey data it is possible to develop estimates of the frequency of significant sites in the study area. As noted above, these estimates should be considered approximations at best.

**Table 9-4. Summary of Site Significance.**

Site No.	Site Name	Evaluation
16IV1	Rosedale Plantation	Potentially eligible
16IV16	South of Rosedale Plantation	Potentially eligible
16IV18	Slacks	Potentially eligible
16IV54	Little Four	Not eligible
16IV55	Pink Trailer	Potentially eligible
16IV56	Sunburn	Not eligible
16IV57	Three O'clock	Not eligible
16IV58	West Oaks No. 1	Potentially eligible
16IV59	West Oaks No. 2	Potentially eligible
16IV60	Center Plantation No. 1	Not eligible
16IV61	Center Plantation No. 2	Not eligible
16IV62	Clay Marble	Not eligible
16IV63	Persimmon Plantation No. 1	Potentially eligible
16IV64	Venus de Grosse Tete	Not eligible
16IV65	Hot Sauce	Not eligible
16IV66	Gay Place No. 1	Not eligible
16IV67	Gay Place No. 2	Potentially eligible
16IV68	Persimmon Plantation No. 2	Not eligible
16IV70	Skeeter Bayou	Potentially eligible
16IV71	West Oaks No. 3	Not eligible
16IV72	West Oaks No. 4	Potentially eligible
16IV73	West Oaks No. 5	Not eligible
16IV74	West Oaks No. 6	Not eligible
16IV75	West Oaks No. 7	Not eligible
16IV76	West Oaks No. 8	Not eligible
16IV77	West Oaks No. 9	Potentially eligible
16IV78	West Oaks No. 10	Not eligible
16IV79	West Oaks No. 11	Potentially eligible
16IV80	Stiletto Heel	Not eligible
16IV81	Lackluster	Not fully evaluated
16IV82	Sunnyside No. 1	Not eligible
16IV83	Sunnyside No. 2	Not eligible
16IV84	Sunnyside No. 3	Not eligible
16IV85	Sunnyside No. 4	Not eligible
16IV86	Sunnyside No. 5	Not eligible
16IV87	Sunnyside No. 6	Not eligible
16IV88	Sunnyside No. 7	Not eligible
16IV95	Full Crew	Not eligible
16IV96	Soggy Bottom	Not eligible
16IV97	The Big Brown One	Potentially eligible
16IV98	Center Plantation No. 3	Not eligible
16IV99	Center Plantation No. 4	Not eligible
16IV100	Center Plantation No. 5	Not eligible
16PC66	Black Stump	Not eligible
16PC67	Woodhenge	Potentially eligible
16PC68	Beauvais	Not eligible
16PC69	Golden Gate	Not eligible
16PC70	Alcatraz	Potentially eligible
16PC71	Frost	Not fully evaluated
16PC72	Where's Norm?	Not eligible

Twelve of the 47 sites located during the sample survey are considered potentially eligible, a density of one site per 41.7 ac. Extrapolating to the natural levee area of the entire study area yields a figure of 2151 sites that are potentially National Register-eligible.



### ***Condition of the Resource Base***

The cultural resources of the Upper Atchafalaya Backwater Area are being impacted by a series of natural and cultural processes that are gradually deteriorating the resource base. In this sense these processes are not unique, for this is occurring throughout much of the Mississippi River deltaic plain. The principal natural process impacting cultural resources is erosion, accelerated by clearance. Relative subsidence is another factor, especially in the southern portion of the study area. This is the result of a combination of regional downwarping of the geosyncline and compaction of organic deposits. Britsch (1998:15) reports that long-term subsidence rates in the study area range from 5.5 to 44 cm per century and average 15 cm per century. In recent years this has been accelerated by ponded drainage, which has raised water levels in the area. The effect of this is felt more strongly by archaeological sites in the areas to the south of the current study, particularly in the deltaic plain south of Lake Verret. These sites are gradually inundated and, if not buried by sedimentation, may be subjected to more severe impacts by another natural process, wave erosion. The latter has been particularly destructive along the shorelines of lakes Verret and Palourde. While subsidence has not yet had pronounced consequences within the current study area, the likelihood is that it will in the future.

The cultural processes affecting the archaeological and historical resources are more diverse and their impacts vary accordingly. On the higher natural levees of the Fordoche distributary, as well as the Mississippi River and its abandoned channels, agriculture is the most widespread and destructive process. Plowing gradually disturbs shallow archaeological deposits by displacing artifacts and mixing cultural strata. Excavation of drainage ditches around the fields and roads, although more limited in area, can be even more destructive.

Another cultural process beginning to affect cultural resources located on the higher natural levees is suburban sprawl. This affects both archaeological sites and historic structures, and although concentrated around the larger towns of the area, will eventually spread along transportation routes connecting them. Impacts to archaeological sites related to development are potentially more adverse than those of agriculture, because those sites not destroyed are usually inaccessible. Pipeline construction, timber harvesting, natural gas and oil ex-

ploration, and road building are processes that have further damaged the archaeological record.

Based on the available information on cultural resources in the study area and current trends in land use in the area, it is difficult to evaluate the areas in which resources are at greatest risk. Those located on the smaller natural levees in the western portion of the area are subject not only to the current natural processes of subsidence and erosion, but perhaps even more importantly, also to the residential and commercial development that is likely to accelerate along the accessible natural levee ridges. In the eastern portion of the area agriculture is unlikely to expand beyond its present limits unless water levels are lowered. However, the continued growth of Baton Rouge and the suburban, residential areas which surround it may prove a significantly greater threat to cultural resources in this portion of the study area.

### ***Implications of the Archaeological Data for the Geomorphic History of the Study Area***

The archaeological data recovered during the present research provide little new chronological information on the geomorphic history of the study area. The earliest surficial landforms in the study area are the natural levees of the Stage 1 meander belt abandoned channels, False River and Bayou Cane/Bayou Clause. These features probably date to between 2000 and 1000 B.P. (Saucier 1994:278-280), old enough to have Marksville sites associated with them. The earliest recorded occupation on Bayou Cane/Bayou Clause is 16WBR3 (Smithfield), an unburied Marksville period mound located on the cutbank. This probably closely dates the abandonment of the channel to the period between A.D. 1 and 400. (A second Marksville period nonmound site had been identified by Hinks et al. (1993) within the old Bayou Cane/Clause channel, on a crevasse associated with the current Mississippi channel. That identification is probably mistaken; sherds identified as Marksville Incised are probably Mississippi period in date, most likely Sanson Incised and/or Mazique Incised, *var. Manchac*.)

The next youngest landforms in the study area are the natural levees of the Bayou Fordoche distributary, emanating from the present meander belt of the Mississippi River and thus possibly dating as early as 2000 B.P. (Saucier 1994:280-282). Minor Early Baytown period occupations (A.D. 400 - 500) at the Peter Hill and Reed sites are associated with this distributary system. Most components on the

Fordoché system, however, do not predate the Late Coles Creek period (A.D. 1000 - 1200).

### *Hypotheses*

#### *Prehistoric Settlement Systems*

##### *1. Subsistence-Settlement Strategies*

**1a-1. Hypothesis:** Late Archaic and Poverty Point groups that occupied the study area were mobile hunter-gatherers who employed what Binford (1980) has characterized as a foraging strategy. Their sites will represent short-term residential bases occupied by small groups. Binford (1980:9) describes the residential base as "the locus out of which foraging parties originate and where most processing, manufacturing, and maintenance activities take place."

**1a-2. Hypothesis:** Late Archaic and Poverty Point groups followed a logistically organized collector strategy (Binford 1980). Under this strategy a group occupied fewer residential bases and sent out task groups to obtain resources. Sites associated with this strategy would include residential bases and field camps established by task groups.

**Assessment:** No data relative to either of these two hypotheses are available from the study area. Sites from the current study do not appear to date any earlier than the Baytown period.

**1b-1. Hypothesis:** Tchula through Coles Creek period groups in the study area practiced a mixture of hunting-and-gathering and horticulture. The hunting-and-gathering portion of the economy would be categorized as a logistically organized collector strategy. Horticulture became increasingly important through time, but never represented a major portion of the subsistence base.

**1b-2. Hypothesis:** Tchula through Coles Creek period groups in the study area practiced a mixture of hunting-and-gathering and horticulture, but occupied year-round villages. Task groups continued to establish field camps for resource extraction.

**Assessment:** The available data on Tchula through Coles Creek period subsistence in the study area are almost non-existent. The only sizable analyzed assemblage from the area around the current study is the collection of faunal remains from the Bruly St. Martin site (16IV6) to the south, excavated by Springer (1980). This assemblage, which consists of over 60,000

specimens, is associated with the Troyville occupation of the site and indicates a reliance on fish, white-tailed deer, muskrat, waterfowl and turtles. A small collection of carbonized plant remains was also recovered, but it is much less informative. It consists entirely of wild plant remains, including persimmon and grape seeds and acorn meat (Springer 1980:Table 8). The absence of domesticates at this time level agrees with recent findings from other portions of the Lower Mississippi Valley, which suggest that tropical domesticates such as corn did not become important until late in the Coles Creek period, after A.D. 1000 (Kidder 1993; Kidder and Fritz 1993). Domesticated chenopod has been tentatively identified from early Coles Creek contexts at the Hedgeland site (16CT19) in the Lower Tensas Basin, but to date this occurrence has not been documented elsewhere (Roberts 1997). Assuming that native seed crops were at most a minor element in the economy, then it seems probable that hunting and gathering remained the mainstay of the subsistence system until late in the Coles Creek period.

The question of whether the Tchula through Coles Creek period groups in the study area were seasonally mobile or occupied year-round villages is also difficult to address directly due to the lack of excavated sites; however, the available settlement pattern data and information from other portions of the Lower Mississippi Valley permit a few inferences to be drawn. First, mound construction was taking place throughout this time in other portions of the Lower Mississippi Valley. While the Tchula, Marksville and Baytown period mounds served a mortuary function, and therefore do not necessarily indicate residential permanence, by the Coles Creek period some mounds served as substructures for buildings. This suggests that at least some segment of the society was residing at these sites for much of the year. It is possible that families or groups of families left the mound sites during part of the year in order to take advantage of seasonal food resources, such as fish spawning runs or nut harvests. Wells (1998:337-341) has noted differences in the floral assemblages recovered from an early Coles Creek mound site and a contemporaneous small habitation site in the Tensas Basin that seem to reflect seasonal occupation of the latter. This is certainly a possibility in the present study area as well, but one which will require excavation to confirm.

**1c-1. Hypothesis:** Mississippi period groups in the study area practiced a mixture of agriculture and hunting-and-gathering. These groups occupied

year-round villages or hamlets, and task groups established field camps for resource extraction. Agriculture was a major part of the subsistence economy, but it was supplemented by hunting-and-gathering.

**1c-2. Hypothesis:** Mississippi period groups in the study area practiced a mixture of hunting-and-gathering and horticulture. The hunting-and-gathering portion of the economy followed a logistically organized collector strategy, and horticulture never represented a major portion of the subsistence base.

**Assessment:** Subsistence data from this time period are lacking, as virtually no Mississippi period sites within the project area have been excavated. Just southeast of the study area, at Bayou Goula (16IV11), Quimby (1957:133) noted the presence of a deposit of corn cob fragments associated with the pre mound A horizon, a level dominated by early Plaquemine types. The St. Gabriel site (16IV128), to the northeast of Bayou Goula, produced a single kernel of maize associated with a terminal Coles Creek (St. Gabriel phase) wall-trench structure (Woodiel 1980:73). Holley and DeMarcay (1977:25-27) noted maize cobs from the Fleming (16JE36) site in the Barataria basin in uncertain contexts dating to either the late Coles Creek or Plaquemine phases. More recently, large quantities of maize were recovered from Barataria phase contexts at the Bayou Des Familles shell midden [16JE218 (Fritz 1995)]. This was, in fact, the only edible plant remain recovered from the site.

There can be little doubt that tropical cultigens were in southeast Louisiana by Plaquemine times. As Kidder and Fritz (1993; Kidder, Fritz and Smith 1993) have pointed out, however, the presence of these cultigens does not necessarily entail a reliance on them. The only site yielding maize in significant quantities is the Bayou Des Familles site, and this site may not necessarily represent a typical subsistence pattern for the time period. Fritz (1995:346) points out that even the contemporary Emerson (16TE104) site in the Tensas Basin, while producing large quantities of maize kernels and cupules, also produced significant amounts of nut shell. She further suggests that the inhabitants of Bayou Des Familles were engaging in short-term, specialized farming activities (1995:346).

With the lack of excavated data from the study area, the issue of seasonality and year-round residence is difficult to address. Certainly platform mounds, present since the Coles Creek period, are sugges-

tive of mound-top residence and perhaps permanent villages with year-round habitation. Beyond single- and multiple-mound sites, two site types appear to exist in the project area during the Mississippi period. The first are small earth midden sites, such as 16PC70, 16IV56, 16IV59, 16IV87 and possibly 16IV67. These are represented by small scatters of artifacts generally less than 5000 m<sup>2</sup> in area. Disturbance by the plow has probably greatly inflated some examples, and one of the largest of the aboriginal sites, 16IV83, is over 26,000 m<sup>2</sup>, despite having one of the lowest artifact densities (Table 9-5). Before deflation by erosion and plowing, these sites were probably similar in form to the Alcatraz (16PC70) site, with small, spatially discrete lenses of intact midden representing limited spatial and temporal occupation. The function of these sites may be comparable to contemporary small earth midden sites such as Emerson (16TE104), in the Tensas basin, which Kidder, Fritz and Smith (1993:136-137) characterize as "an isolated hamlet or homestead, devoted to mixed subsistence pursuits, and evidently occupied year-round."

The other site type is the large earth midden, occupying the same distributary channels as the smaller sites. Three of these sites have been located within the current study area. The Slacks site (16IV18) is a previously recorded site, while the Skeeter Bayou (16IV70) and Woodhenge (16PC67) sites were recorded in this study. These range in size from 7,000 m<sup>2</sup> to 27,000 m<sup>2</sup>, are moderately dense to dense in artifacts, and tend to occupy the natural levees around minor stream junctions. Although several nonmound sites fall into this size range, few have an artifact density to suggest they are more than badly deflated small sites. The function of these sites is not clear, due to lack of excavated data. However, their size and position in the settlement hierarchy of the area suggest that these may be larger villages, possibly with year-round occupations.

Ultimately, however, there is little evidence to suggest the presence or absence of permanently occupied sites within the area. Mound sites are the most likely candidates for permanent occupations, but only a single Plaquemine mound has been tested within the project area. LAS excavations at Mound A at Peter Hill (16IV2) were limited primarily to off-mound contexts; Test Pit 5, in the southern flank of the mound, was apparently never completed, and no profile of it was ever published. Certainly the investment of labor in such constructions implies a degree of permanence to the site occupation. Be-

Table 9-5. Site Size and Artifact Density for Nonmound Sites from the Sample Survey.

Site No.	Site Name	Site Size (m <sup>2</sup> )	No. Prehistoric Artifacts	Density (artifacts/m)
16IV70	Skeeter Bayou	27000	92	0.003
16IV83	Sunnyside No. 2	26400	9	0.0003
16IV95	Full Crew	9000	6	0.001
16IV88	Sunnyside No. 7	8400	6	0.001
16IV18	Slacks	7600	58	0.008
16PC67	Woodhenge	7000	144	0.021
16IV84	Sunnyside No.3	7000	16	0.002
16IV86	Sunnyside No.5	6400	1	-
16IV59	West Oaks No. 2	6000	14	0.002
16IV80	Stiletto Heel	4800	3	0.001
16IV65	Hot Sauce	3600	12	0.003
16IV85	Sunnyside No.4	3600	5	0.001
16IV67	Gay Place No. 2	3150	83	0.026
16IV56	Sunburn	3000	18	0.006
16IV81	Lackluster	2000	1	-
16IV73	West Oaks No. 5	2000	7	0.004
16IV64	Venus de Grosse Tete	2000	3	0.002
16IV87	Sunnyside No. 6	1600	13	0.008
16IV58	West Oaks No. 1	900	9	0.010
16PC70	Alcatraz	75	18	0.240

-Artifacts collected from revisit only.

yond earthen mounds, the likelihood of year-round occupation decreases with site size as we examine earth middens. It seems unlikely that the smallest of these sites would have supported a year-round occupation, and these probably represent seasonal habitation and extraction sites, reoccupied over several generations. The largest and densest of these scatters, however, may represent small villages occupied for much of the year or even year round. Reoccupation, plow damage, and other forms of disturbance, however, have greatly complicated the issue of site size for all sites, and many of the large, thin scatters of sherds may have originally been much smaller.

## 2. Site Locational Factors

**2a-1. Hypothesis:** The preferred locations for all types of habitation sites (residential bases, villages and hamlets) in the study area were the natural levees of active or abandoned Mississippi River channels or the upper portions of crevasse or distributary systems.

**2a-2. Hypothesis:** Habitation sites were located on all portions of crevasse or distributary systems

**Assessment:** The available data for most of the sites in the study area do not permit a distinction between habitation and specialized collecting sites. The exceptions are the mound sites, where it seems reasonable to assume relatively long-term if not year-round habitation, and the larger earth midden/artifact scatters. The latter pose something of a problem because they have not been consistently identified in the study area prior to the present project. Therefore the distribution of earth middens is closely related to the areas examined in the present study. The mound sites do not have this problem, and therefore it is their distribution that was used in examining the location of long-term habitation sites in the study area (Figures 9-2 to 9-5).

There are six sites in the study area that are reported to have contained earthen mounds (Figure 9-6). All mounds in the project area are located on the upper section of the Fordoche distributary, spe-

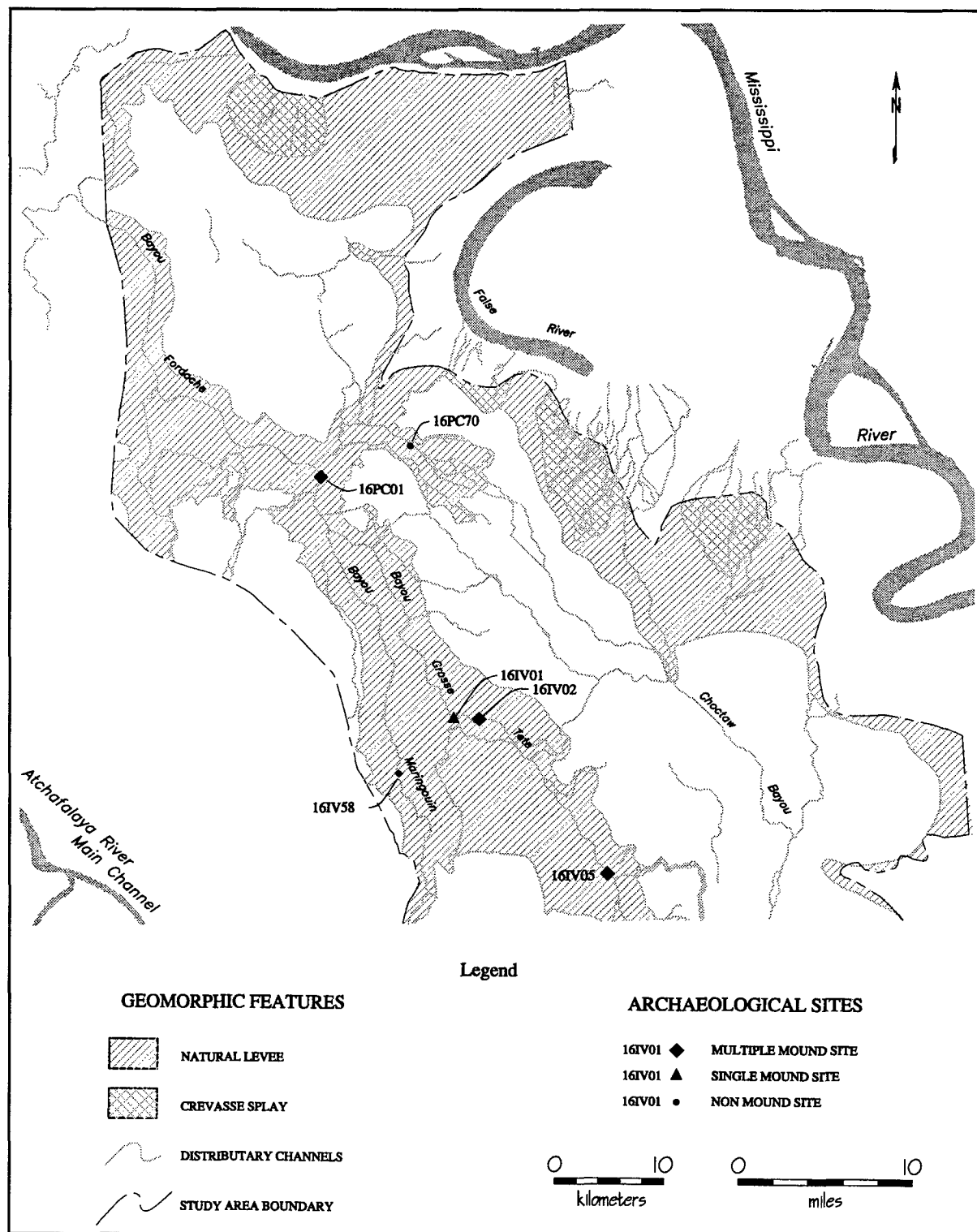


Figure 9-2. Baytown period sites in the Upper Atchafalaya Backwater study area.

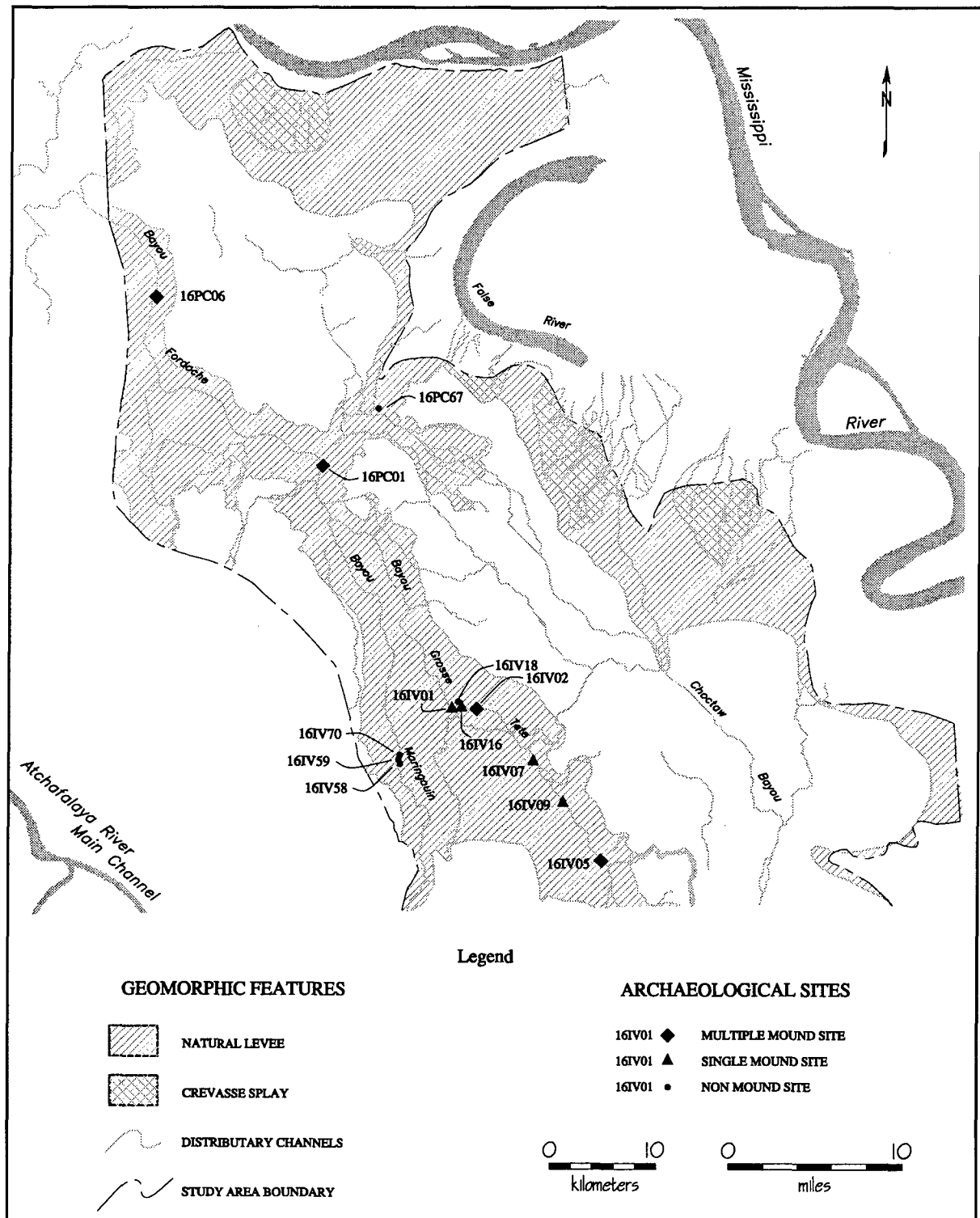


Figure 9-3. Coles Creek period sites in the Upper Atchafalaya Backwater study area.

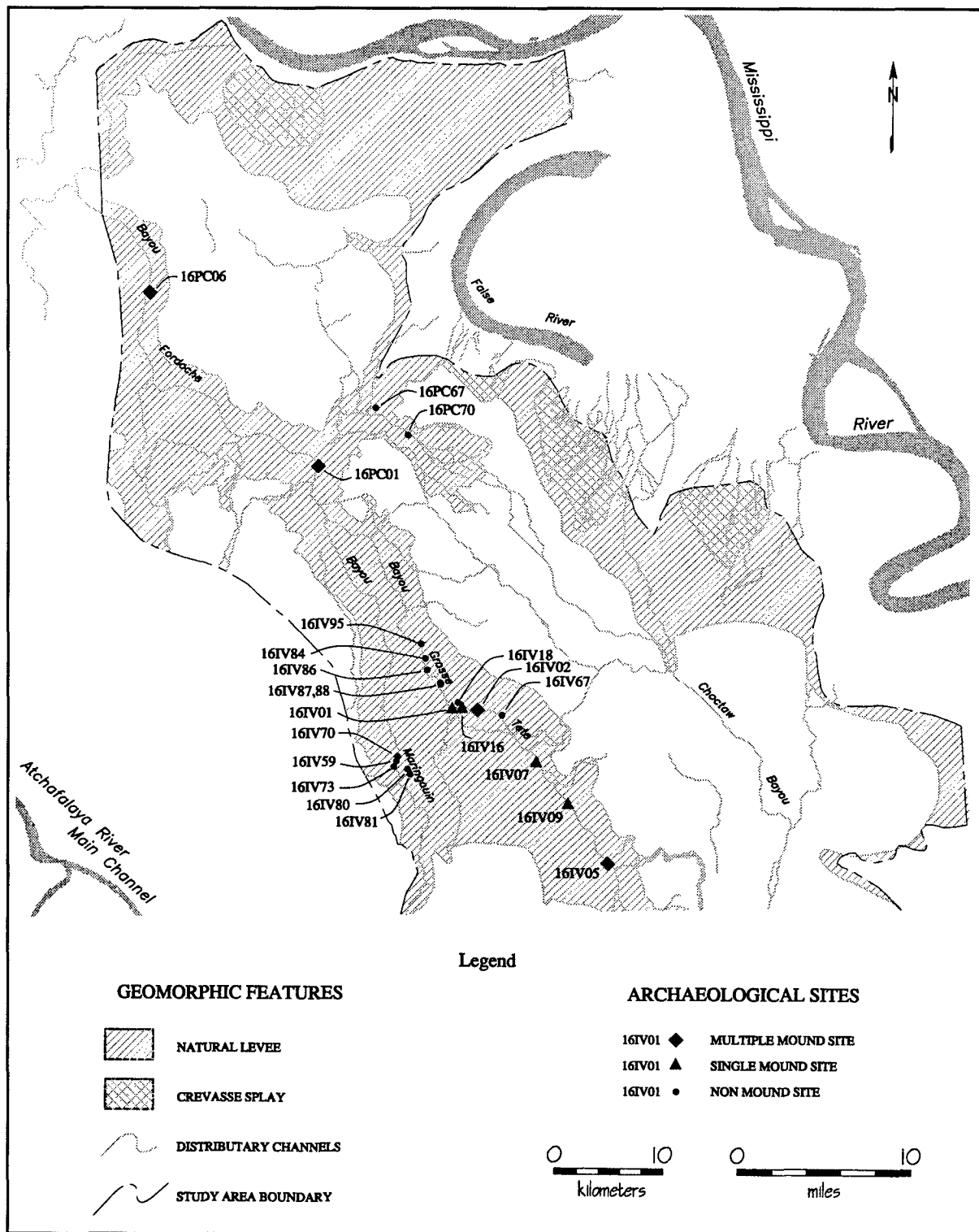


Figure 9-4. Plaquemine (early to middle Mississippi period) sites in the Upper Atchafalaya Backwater study area.

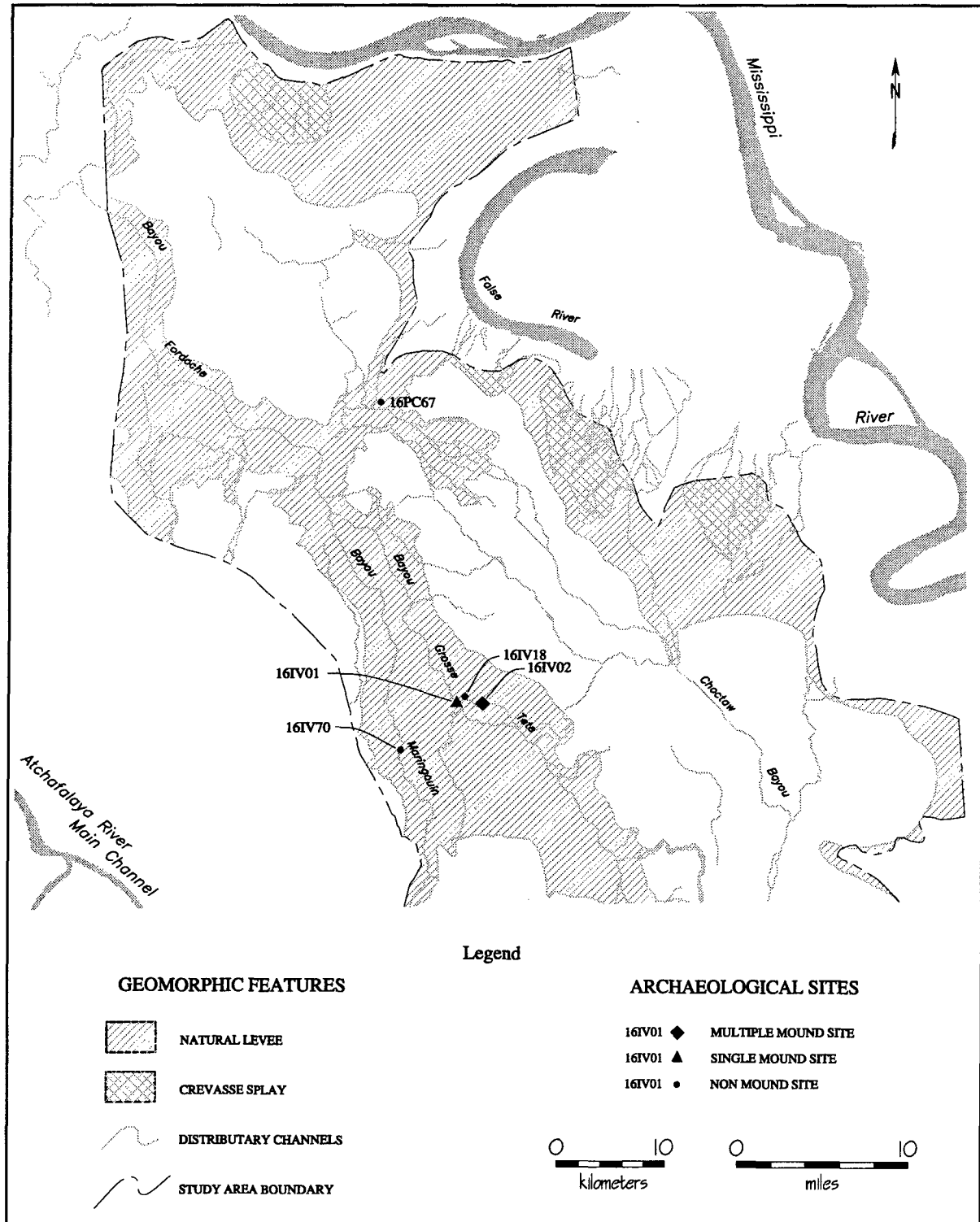


Figure 9-5. Late Prehistoric sites in the Upper Atchafalaya Backwater study area.



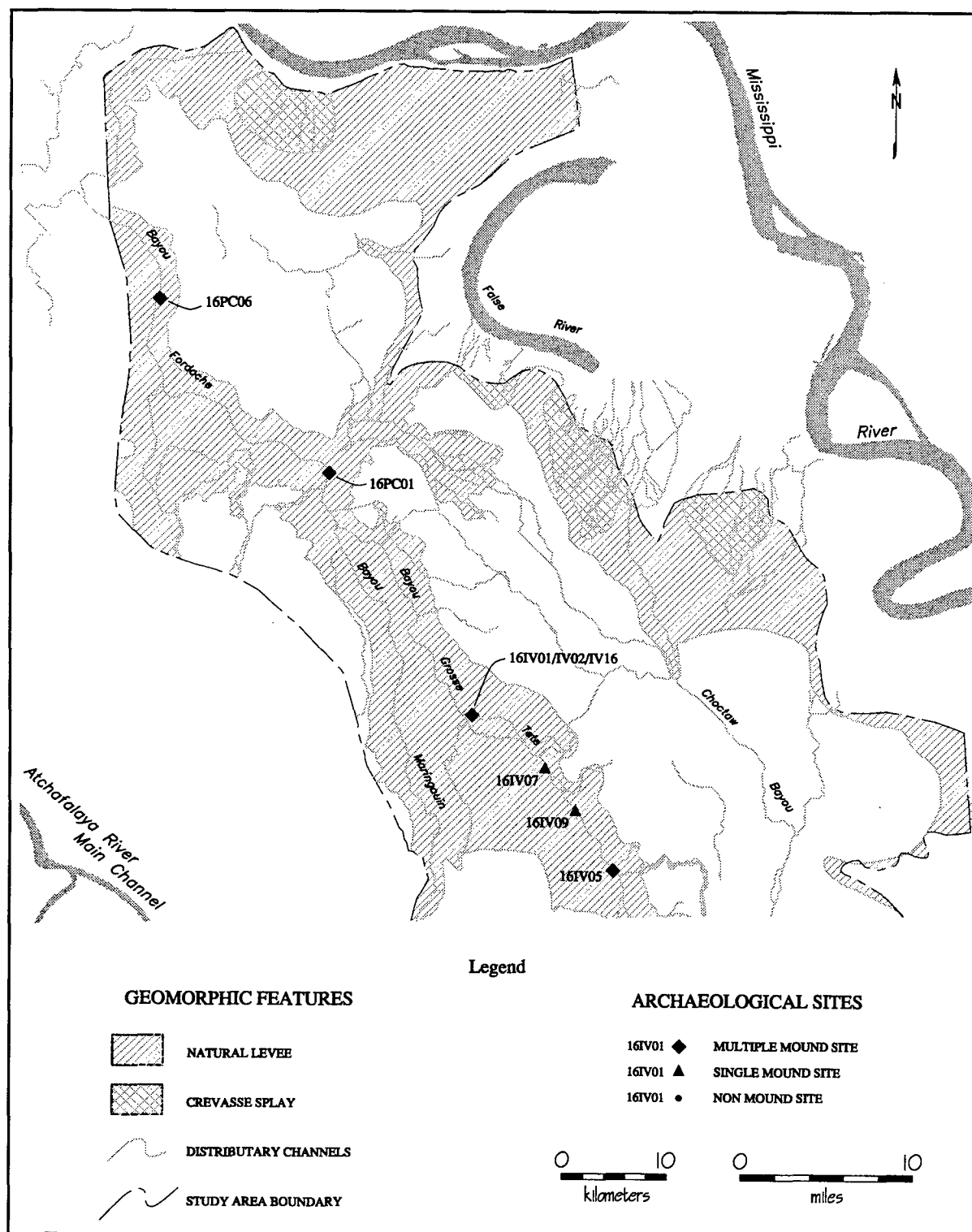


Figure 9-6. Multimound and single mound sites in the Upper Atchafalaya Backwater study area.

cifically a continuous 24-mile (38.6-km) stretch of Bayous Fardoche and Grosse Tete. Mound site distribution in the current study area may easily be combined with the Lower Atchafalaya survey area (Kelley et al 2000:290), as many of the waterways are continuous into this southern area. Earthen mounds in the Lower Backwater show a tendency toward clustering on the lower ends of the distributary channels. The shell mounds and the earth-and-shell mounds, considered by Kelley et al. (2000:290) to be functionally similar to their earthen counterparts, are situated on the lower ends of distributary systems near Lake Verret. All told, 12 of 28 mound sites in the combined areas are found either on the major trunk channels (the Mississippi, Mississippi/Lafourche, and Mississippi/Teche channels), or on the upper ends of distributary channels (the Fardoche, Pierre Part, and Plaquemine systems). The remainder are found on the lower ends of crevasses or distributary systems, or alternatively on the lakes found at the terminal ends of the distributary systems.

This distribution suggests little tendency toward favoring upper or lower portions of the distributary systems. However, the clearest pattern that emerges from both this survey and the previous Lower Backwater survey is that the Mississippi natural levees, and especially the Mississippi/Lafourche levee, do not support much prehistoric habitation. The mound sites closest to the Mississippi River near the current study area are 16WBR2 and 16WBR3, associated with a Mississippi levee crevasse and an abandoned Mississippi channel, respectively. In fact, between the Red River confluence and the mouth of the Lafourche (at Donaldsonville), only three mound sites are directly associated with the Mississippi River; these are Medora (16WBR1), Clara Murray (16IV12), and Bayou Goula (16IV11). The lack of sites on the Mississippi at this time may be due to the catastrophic nature of flooding associated with the active channel, the higher degrees of biodiversity found in distributary and slackwater environments, or even political and defensive considerations, such as accessibility.

**2b-1. Hypothesis:** Most habitation sites located on crevasse or distributary natural levees were established after the channel had become inactive due to the hazards of living near active channels and to the greater biological productivity of inactive ones.

**2b-2. Hypothesis:** Habitation sites were established adjacent to active and inactive crevasse and distributary channels.

**Assessment:** The scarcity of data from controlled excavations in the study area makes it impossible to adequately address this topic; however, even with excavation data it may be difficult to resolve. Current geomorphic models of the study area suggest that many of the distributary channels were reoccupied repeatedly throughout their history (Britsch 1998; Heinrich 1994). A channel might receive overflow for a time and then become inactive for several years due to changes in the hydrology of its parent stream, only to be reactivated later. These situations may be difficult to identify archaeologically. For example, at the Bruly St. Martin site (16IV6), which is located adjacent to a crevasse channel emanating from the trunk channel of the Lafourche delta, some of the midden is resting on the natural levee deposits, but some appears to be stratified within the levee deposits (Springer 1977:Figure 5). The question is whether the associated channel, now occupied by Bayou Croux, was receiving overflow during the occupation. Resolving such questions may require the recovery of short-term deposits, such as features, in stratified contexts within natural levee deposits.

It is possible, however, that such data is available at one site in the current study area. Alcatraz (16PC70), described in Chapter 6, yielded what may be two sequential occupation levels separated by a deposit of oxidized, dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) silty clay in ST 5. It is not clear if this intervening stratum is due to overbank or backswamp flooding, nor is the nature of the lower occupation level clear, as it is not seen in other shovel tests. Further testing would be required to clarify the nature of the stratigraphy found in this test.

**2c-1. Hypothesis:** Villages with single earthen mounds functioned as local political and religious centers. These sites were located on the natural levees of Mississippi River channels or the upper portions of crevasse or distributary systems along communication routes.

**2c-2. Hypothesis:** Mound construction was not related to a site's position in the local political hierarchy. Sites with single earthen mounds were located on the natural levees of Mississippi River channels and throughout crevasse or distributary systems.

**Assessment:** It has long been assumed that the presence of mound construction set certain village sites apart from others in terms of function. This assumption can be examined by comparison of site size and location between nonmound and mound

villages. To supplement the meager data from mound sites within the project area, data from mound sites within the Lower Atchafalaya Survey area (Kelley et al. 2000) will be used here. These can be compared to the three nonmound "village" sites noted for the Upper Atchafalaya Survey, 16IV18, 16IV70, and 16PC67.

Using site size as a possible indicator of function is not without problems, as noted in the assessment of Hypothesis 1C. However, examining site size for large earth middens against single-mound sites, it becomes apparent that there is a difference. Reported site size for single shell or earth mound sites ranges from 750 to 5000 m<sup>2</sup> for both the Coles Creek and Mississippi periods. Note that this is considerably smaller than the range defined for the three nonmound villages, 7,000 to 27,000 m<sup>2</sup>.

Thus it would seem that there are nonmound villages during the late Coles Creek and Mississippi periods that are larger than contemporary mound sites. This suggests that perhaps the two site types functioned differently, that the function of mound sites may have been less residential than villages, and that mound sites were occupied by fewer people or perhaps only at certain time of the year. An examination of their position within the combined study areas reveals that single mound and the larger nonmound sites occupy similar environments, largely on the natural levees of distributaries. Large shell middens that may have functioned as villages also occupy the lower ends of distributaries and lakes in backswamp areas in the Lower Backwater area, along with many single mound sites. Mound sites, with the exception of 16IV11 and 16IV12, are not directly associated with the Mississippi and Mississippi/Lafourche channels. Instead, earth midden sites are found in these areas, many of which fall into the size range defined for villages in this study (>7000 m<sup>2</sup>).

Size distinction does appear to exist between the larger category of nonmound sites and the range of sizes for single-mound sites established in the Lower Backwater study (little to no data is available for mound site sizes in the Upper Backwater area). Additionally, larger nonmound sites may be more commonly found on the main levees of the Mississippi and Lafourche. However, the unfortunate fact is that none of the Coles Creek and Mississippi period mound or nonmound sites in the current study area have been adequately investigated, and assigning function is a purely speculative exercise. Additionally, the reporting of prehistoric sites in both the Lower

and Upper Backwater area has been notoriously spotty in the past, and systematic attempts to characterize these sites and their full extents have been very limited. Therefore, statements about the function of larger nonmound and single-mound sites are at best premature at this point.

**2d-1. Hypothesis:** Contemporary villages with single mounds were located at regular distances from one another as a result of sociopolitical factors.

**2d-2. Hypothesis:** The location of villages with single mounds was related primarily to environmental variables, such as the width of the natural levee, the condition of a nearby crevasse or distributary channel, or the distance to a major stream junction.

**Assessment:** Again, it is probably safest to confine these questions to the most likely eras of mound construction, specifically the Coles Creek and Mississippi periods. Regular spacing of mound sites, and hence political territories, are commonly associated with the more complex native societies of the Lower Mississippi Valley (Belmont 1983:176; Williams and Brain 1983:407; Barker 1992; Kidder 1992; Wells 1993, 1998:75-76). In order to examine these hypotheses, the distance between single mound sites was measured along communication routes (waterways). Very few single mound sites are located within the current study area, especially when the 16IV1, 16IV16, and 16IV2 sites are regarded as a single complex (see the assessment of Hypotheses 2g-1, below). The distance between 16IV7 and 16IV9, the two single-mound sites that remain after this is done, is 2.9 km. In the Lower Backwater area, the average distance between Coles Creek single-mound sites and their closest single-mound neighbors is 9.09 km with a standard deviation of 5.66 km (n=10). For Plaquemine culture sites, this figure changes very little, largely due to the fact that most of the same sites are involved in both tabulations. The average distance between these sites is 9.65 km, with a standard deviation of 5.91 km (n=9). The lack of radical changes in intersite distance between these cultures illustrates the cultural continuity between them. Unfortunately, the large standard deviations in comparison to the averages render these figures largely meaningless (Kelley et al. 2000), and it cannot be proven that single-mound sites have a regular distribution across the landscape, either in the Lower or Upper Backwater regions.

**2e-1. Hypothesis:** The location of all non-mound sites will be affected by both socio-political and

environmental factors. More socially complex societies will evince non-mound sites that are larger and located closer to the centers of political power. Lower order sites in less complex societies will be drawn away from socio-political centers and disperse across the landscape to take greater advantage of subsistence opportunities.

**2e-2. Hypothesis:** The location of non-mound sites will be affected primarily by environmental factors.

The formulation of this hypothesis required that nonmound sites of at least two major periods be identified. While several sites were noted in the sample survey which may be assigned to the Plaquemine culture of the Mississippi period, not many sites could be convincingly identified to the preceding Coles Creek period, and none of these was found without a Plaquemine component. Additionally, all mound sites that produced Coles Creek material also yielded Plaquemine diagnostics.

**2f-1. Hypothesis:** The adoption of corn agriculture as significant portion of aboriginal subsistence during the Mississippi period led to shifts in settlement strategies.

**2f-2. Hypothesis:** Site location preferences will remain unchanged during the Mississippi period.

**Assessment:** Proceeding under the assumption that corn agriculture does indeed comprise a major portion of Mississippi period subsistence in the Lower Mississippi Valley (a point still up for some debate), the obvious method of assessing this hypothesis is by comparing site locations and types for the Mississippi and Coles Creek periods. The Coles Creek and Plaquemine sites in the project area were dichotomized on the basis of position on the Fordoche distributary versus the Bayou Cane/Bayou Clause/Mississippi levee area. The proportion of Coles Creek sites on the Mississippi levee to sites on the Fordoche distributary is almost identical to the proportion of Plaquemine sites in the same areas, and the Chi Square value reflects this ( $X^2=0.15$ ,  $df=1$ ). In terms of position on the Mississippi levee versus the Fordoche distributary levee, site location preferences do not seem to have changed between the Coles Creek and Mississippi periods.

The primary problem with this method is the fact that most sites identified as Coles Creek were St. Gabriel phase (terminal Coles Creek) occupations. Apart from the typological problems of sepa-

rating St. Gabriel phase from Medora phase sites using small collections, there is also the problem of when corn agriculture was adopted, and when it became important. Corn agriculture is apparently present in the coeval Balmoral and Preston phase assemblages of the Coles Creek period of the Tensas basin (Kidder 1992), but may not have become important until the Mississippi period Routh phase, contemporary with the local Medora phase. Timing of adoption and intensification of corn agriculture will vary from region to region, and is, of course, crucial to this hypothesis.

**2g-1. Hypothesis:** During the Coles Creek and Mississippi periods more complex settlement hierarchies developed in the study area. The sites occupying the upper level of these hierarchies were located on the larger natural levees on important communication routes.

**2g-2. Hypothesis:** The sites occupying the upper level of the Coles Creek and Mississippi period settlement hierarchies in the study area were located primarily to control critical environmental resources, such as fishing or hunting grounds.

**Assessment:** With evolution of ranked societies in the Lower Mississippi Valley in the Coles Creek period, a few mound sites appear to become dominant over others. In the Tensas, Yazoo, and Lower Red rivers to the north, the standard site layout consists of two mounds or three mounds arranged around a central plaza. There are a few sites, however, that have more mounds at this time, and some authors (Barker 1988, 1992; Kidder 1992) suggest that sites such as Osceola (16TE2), Lake George (22YZ557), and Insley (16FR3) were dominant regional centers by at least the end of the Coles Creek period. Under the assumption that all mound sites with Coles Creek and Mississippi components in the study area were in full use during those periods, the situation may be similar in the Upper Atchafalaya Backwater region. Sites with two or more mounds may represent the seats of regional polities, with lower-ranked single mound sites serving as secondary centers.

The location of these primary centers appears to be largely confined to distributaries well off the main Mississippi levee during the last millennium of aboriginal occupation (see Figure 9-6). This is not to say that mounds are not found near the trunk channel; 16WBR2 and 16WBR3 are located on a crevasse channel off the Mississippi to the east of the study area, and to the south, 16IV11 and 16IV12

are situated just off the Mississippi River. The western natural levee of the combined Mississippi-Lafourche channel, however, is otherwise devoid of mound sites from the Morganza spillway to the Gulf of Mexico. This is interesting, given the presence of Coles Creek and Plaquemine to historic Indian earth and shell middens along this stretch, to the east and southeast of the study area. Mound sites within the Upper and Lower Backwater areas tend to occupy the narrower levees of the Fardoche, Pierre Part, and Plaquemine distributaries, as well as the shores of Lake Verret during this time. This dearth of earlier mound occupations was used by Kelley et al. (2000) to suggest that the full effect of the adoption of maize agriculture, and hence a preference for the lighter Commerce loams, was not felt until late in the period. It is also worth noting that the largest mound complexes within the Upper Backwater area are located on Bayous Grosse Tete and Fardoche (16PC6 and 16IV1/2/16, respectively), and not associated with the Mississippi levee. [It is argued here that the Rosedale (16IV1), South of Rosedale Plantation (16IV16), and Peter Hill (16IV2) sites form a single, linear mound complex straddling Bayou Grosse Tete. Such large, widespread mound complexes are not unheard of. The Barataria complex, in Jefferson Parish on Bayous Villars and Barataria, consists of three Mississippi period mound sites forming what is probably a single political entity, each site separated by a waterway from the others.]

It would appear that the major mound sites of the Coles Creek and Mississippi periods are better situated to control the resources of these backswamp and distributary channel environments than the major communication routes off the Lafourche-Mississippi natural levee. At the same time, however, these larger mound sites give the appearance of regular spacing within the study area for both the Mississippi and Coles Creek periods. Spacing between the four multimound sites in the current study area averages  $11.2 \pm 1.76$  km (measuring along waterways as mapped by Britsch (1998:Plates 2, 3), the distance is  $12.9 \pm 2.4$  km). This spacing is considerably smaller than the distances between multimound sites in the Lower Backwater area. Spacing between large mound sites in the Lower Atchafalaya Backwater, arranged in roughly linear fashion parallel to the Lafourche levee northwest to southeast, averages  $20.7 \pm 1.5$  km ( $n=4$ ) between Coles Creek culture sites and  $19.4 \pm 1.8$  km ( $n=4$ ) between Plaquemine mound sites. Measuring these distances along major communication routes (waterways) these distances average  $31.2 \pm 4.5$  km between Coles Creek multimound sites and

$28.5 \pm 5.9$  km between Plaquemine multimound centers. Unfortunately, the issue of contemporaneity of these sites cannot be addressed in any detail due to the lack of excavated data.

The relatively low degrees of variation for these figures are suggestive of fairly regular spacing, although small sample size limits the robusticity of any conclusions. This apparently regular spacing implies that territories may have existed in these time periods, either political or subsistence-related. A picture of evenly spaced, competing polities comes immediately to mind, ranked political entities based primarily on a hunting-and-gathering subsistence economy, much like those proposed for the Coles Creek period Tensas Basin by Barker (1988), Kidder (1992), and Wells (1997, 1998). Belmont (1983:276) noted regular spacing for large Coles Creek mound sites in the Boeuf basin at around 50 km. As noted above, this picture may shift somewhat in the Mississippi period, as the settlement pattern changes to include agriculturally-oriented(?) earth midden sites on the Mississippi levee and closely associated crevasses. In fact, this change may have been dramatic enough to force at least one polity to build a center on a crevasse splay near the Bayou Cane/Bayou Clause area. Most polities, however, remain centered on the mound sites established during late Coles Creek times. The existing data suggest, then, that a mixture of sociopolitical and environmental factors influence the placement of multiple mound sites during the Coles Creek and Mississippi periods.

**2h-1. Hypothesis:** Soil type, or at least soil texture, will be a strong factor in the determination of prehistoric site location on natural levees.

**2h-2. Hypothesis:** Prehistoric sites within the study area will be situated without regard to soil type, the more important factor being the position on the natural levee crest.

In order to test this hypothesis, the linear distance of soil types along the right and left descending banklines of Bayous Grosse Tete, Maringouin, and Fardoche were measured within the study area. Despite the lack of recorded sites on Bruin and Mhoon soils, comprising just over 3.6% of soils on the bayous, there does not appear to be a marked preference for a particular soil type ( $X^2=3.49$ ,  $df=3$ ). Certainly all sites recorded in this survey and previously reported in the study area lie on the loamy Commerce and Convent association soils, found within the upper half of the soil profile of the natural levee

in this area, but a preference is not expressed in the available data. [As a side note, it was felt that while in the field, soils of a certain color and texture, i.e., the coarsest grain size, could reliably indicate the presence of a prehistoric site. The field director became very good at predicting the location of aboriginal sites by simply stepping out of the truck. However, it may be that the soil surveys published for the area are not fine enough to indicate the presence of these "micro-environments."] Given an environment of mixed soil types where Commerce and Convent loams are associated with Mhoon, Tunica, Sharkey, and other soils found lower on the natural levee, chances are good that aboriginal sites will be found on the higher Commerce and Convent soils. There does not, however, seem to be a preference when choosing between soil types in the upper portions of the natural levee.

### 3. Culture History

**3a. Hypothesis:** Tchefuncte occupations in the study area were more closely related to sites to the east within the present meander belt of the Mississippi River than to those to the west along the abandoned Teche course of the Mississippi.

**Assessment:** No data were available from this time period in the current study area.

**3b. Hypothesis:** Baytown and Early to Middle Coles Creek phases in the study area will be more similar to those from Red River or Natchez Bluffs region to the north than to coastal areas to the south.

**Assessment:** While readily admitting that it was a shaky attempt to pigeonhole a set of widespread and disparate collections, Phillips (1970:911, Figure 445) nonetheless set up the Whitehall phase to represent Baytown/Troyville components in south-east Louisiana. While it has become clear that Whitehall is overextended and in need of refinement, very little new Baytown period data has come to light in the intervening years. The extant data do not allow for any subdivision of this phase, and it remains somewhat ill-defined.

The Miller site (16SM6), in the Lower Atchafalaya study area, probably represents one of the largest collections of Baytown period ceramics in south Louisiana, much of it from the terminal end of the Baytown period (Kelley et al. 2000). Included in the Whitehall phase component of the site are sherds of Alligator Incised, Larto Red, and several of the so-called "broken-down" Marksville varieties, such

as Marksville Incised, *vars. Anglim and Vick*, Marksville Stamped, *vars. Bayou Rouge and Elm Ridge*, and Churupa Punctated, *var. Watson*. At some time later within the Baytown period, influences began to penetrate from the eastern Gulf Coast, where the Late Woodland Weeden Island culture was beginning to flourish. Varieties probably extant during this interval (the stratigraphic evidence to separate it from earlier Baytown in this region has yet to be uncovered) include Coles Creek Incised, *vars. Keo, Marsden, Stoner and Phillips*; Evansville Punctated, *var. Amite* (the "Six Mile Treatment"); French Fork Incised, *var. Brashear*; Mazique Incised, *var. Bruly*; and Woodville Zoned Red. Many of the French Fork varieties found at Miller may also date to this period, or the succeeding Bayou Cutler phase, as well as Joffrion and Jackson rim lugs and Officer Punctated rim modes. Additionally, Pontchartrain Check Stamped, *var. Pontchartrain* probably made its initial appearance during the last half of the Baytown period.

Many of these same markers are used to define Baytown/Troyville assemblages to the north, in the Natchez Bluffs and Red River confluence areas. Brown (1985:7,8) has also defined a single phase for the Baytown period in the Natchez Bluffs region. The Hamilton Ridge phase is defined by the presence of Alligator Incised, *var. Alligator*; Baytown Plain, *var. Reed*; Chevalier Stamped *var. Cornelia*; Larto Red, *var. Larto*; Woodville Zoned Red, *var. Woodville*; and Mulberry Creek Cord Marked, *vars. Centers Creek and Porter Bayou* (Brain et al. n.d.; Brown 1985:8). Belmont has added several of the "broken-down" Marksville varieties to this list, notably *var. Watson*. Belmont (1982, n.d.) has defined two phases for the Red River confluence area, an early Baytown Black River phase and a late Baytown Fort Adams phase. Early Baytown is characterized by strong continuity with Marksville and Issaquena pottery (the late varieties of Marksville Stamped, Marksville Incised, and Churupa Punctated), the introduction of Mulberry Creek Cord Marked, the Quafalorma Horizon of painted pottery (Belmont and Williams 1981), Larto Red, and Alligator Incised, *var. Alligator*.

Fort Adams phase pottery, an assemblage characterized by a peak in "Woodland"-style pottery and the bare beginnings of Coles Creek ceramic trends, is typified by a severe decline in Issaquena types. Zoned rocker-stamping disappears, and U-shaped incisions, as on Marksville Incised, are replaced by more pointed incisions, more typical of Coles Creek pottery. Painted pottery declines in this phase, and Mazique Incised, Evansville Punctated, and Cheva-

lier Stamped make their initial appearances. Mulberry Creek almost disappears in this phase, to be resurrected as a minor type again during the early Coles Creek period (Belmont 1967). Cord-marking is still common in this phase to the north and east (House 1982; Belmont 1982).

Unfortunately, most of the data from the current study area does not date from the Baytown period; in fact, substantial occupations on Bayous Fordoche, Grosse Tete and Maringouin do not begin until the Coles Creek period. A single piece of Mulberry Creek Cord-Marked was recovered from Alcatraz (16PC70). Beyond this single sherd, however, the meager Baytown assemblages from the study area offer little to refute or support a Whitehall phase assignment.

Differences between the early Coles Creek ceramic sequences in the coastal region and the Natchez Bluffs/Red River Confluence regions are more pronounced. Both the Natchez Bluffs (Sundown) and Red River (Grand Cote) ceramic assemblages bear a strong resemblance to early Coles Creek pottery found further north in the Tensas and Lower Yazoo Basins. Single- and double-line varieties of Coles Creek Incised (along with prototypical multiple-line varieties, such as *var. Serentz*) become common, as does French Fork Incised, Evansville and Rhinehart Punctated, Chevalier Stamped, Mazique Incised, Avoyelles Punctated, and, at least in early Coles Creek times, Mulberry Creek Cord Marked, *var. Smith Creek*. Jackson and Joffrion rim lugs are relatively common, as is lip-face incising and Officer Punctated modes of decoration. The latter may reflect influences from the north, as Officer Punctated is a major decorative component of Plum Bayou culture in central Arkansas. Middle Coles Creek material from these two regions (Bordelon phase in the Red River confluence region and Ballina in the Natchez Bluffs) tend to be even more closely associated with events in the Tensas and Yazoo [note that Brown's (1985) Coles Creek phases are drawn directly from the Tensas Basin]. Cord marking disappears, and multiple-line varieties of Coles Creek (such as *vars. Coles Creek* and *Mott*) become the norm. Avoyelles Punctated, Chevalier Stamped, Mazique Incised, *vars. Mazique* and *King's Point*, Rhinehart Punctated, and early varieties of Beldeau Incised and Harrison Bayou Incised are also commonly found. French Fork Incised begins to tail off during this period, and fewer varieties are being produced.

Coastal assemblages include many of the types and varieties normally associated with the early half to two-thirds of the Coles Creek period mentioned above, but lack the cord-marking found in the early phases of the Coles Creek period in the more northerly areas. French Fork Incised is more highly elaborated in the Coastal Louisiana region, becoming almost indistinguishable from the Weeden Island Incised pottery of the eastern Gulf Coast from which it was apparently derived. Linear punctation, reflected in the *Back Ridge* and *Sweet Bay* varieties of Mazique Incised and the *Dozier* and *Athanasio* varieties of Coles Creek Incised, is very common. Chevalier Stamped is generally absent. Lone Oak and Machias rims are common in Bayou Cutler/Bayou Ramos times as well. Additionally, Saunders (1999) has recently dated the presence of complicated stamping in this region to the middle Coles Creek period (Bayou Ramos phase). One of the principle markers for Coles Creek in the coastal region, however, is Pontchartrain Check Stamped, found in quantities which easily set these phases apart from more northerly Coles Creek expressions.

Early and middle Coles Creek data are somewhat more prevalent in the current study area than in the Baytown period. The Reed mounds (16IV5), provide a fairly rich early and middle Coles Creek assemblage. Sherds of Cameron Complicated Stamped; Rhinehart Punctated; Mazique Incised, *var. King's Point*; Rhinehart Punctated (including a single sherd executed under a Lone Oak rim); and Pontchartrain Check Stamped, *vars. Tiger Island, Crawford Point*, and *Pontchartrain* show more affiliation with Gulf Coast Bayou Cutler/Bayou Ramos pottery than with phases to the north. A single sherd of Chevalier Stamped may testify to Reed's position near the Red River region, as may the lack of punctated varieties of Coles Creek Incised and Mazique Incised.

However, Reed is not entirely typical of the rest of the study area during the early and middle Coles Creek period. Chevalier Stamped is more common at Livonia (16PC1), and more varieties are present. Pontchartrain Check Stamped, *var. Pontchartrain* makes up a minor percentage of the pottery at Livonia, and is found in even less significant quantities at Peter Hill (16IV2) and Rosedale (16IV1). The Lone Oak rim is entirely absent from these sites north of Reed, as are linear punctated Mazique Incised and Coles Creek Incised varieties. French Fork Incised is not as well-executed or common in the study area as it is to the south. The single sherd of Mulberry

Creek Cord Marked may date to the early Coles Creek period at Alcatraz. Sites in the Upper Backwater, with the possible exception of the Reed mounds, are not typical of the Bayou Cutler/Bayou Ramos assemblages of coastal Louisiana, and while bearing a resemblance to the more "classic Coles Creek" pottery of the Red River and Natchez Bluffs regions, is probably best characterized as transitional between the coastal and central Lower Mississippi Valley areas.

**3c. Hypothesis:** Mississippi period sites in the study area were occupied by groups associated with Plaquemine culture rather than the Pensacola variant of Mississippian culture found farther to the south-east.

**Assessment:** At around A.D. 1200, the Coles Creek culture of the Lower Mississippi Valley and Louisiana coast gives way to the Mississippi period cultural manifestation called Plaquemine culture. In the southeastern part of Louisiana, three principle Plaquemine phases have been defined. To the west of the study area, the Burk Hill phase has been defined on the basis of collections from the Petite Anse region (Brown 1982). To the east, the Barataria phase was established by Holley and DeMarcay (1977) for the Barataria basin. In the project area, this time period is generally thought to be occupied by the Medora phase, after the type site for Plaquemine culture excavated by Quimby (1951) just to the north in West Baton Rouge Parish (Gagliano 1967; Phillips 1970). This phase is marked by a material culture that is directly descended from Coles Creek types and closely related to ceramic phases defined for regions further to the north, such as the Catahoula, Tensas and Yazoo river basins, as well as the Natchez Bluffs (Phillips 1970; Hally 1972; Brown 1985; Brain 1988). Ceramic types central to the definition of the Medora phase include Anna Incised, L'eau Noire Incised, Plaquemine Brushed, Carter Engraved, Coleman Incised, Maddox Engraved, and clay-tempered *Addis* and Baytown Plain pastes.

At the same time, much of the southeast was undergoing a transformation in material culture related to developments in the central Mississippi Valley and other river valleys in the interior southeast as well as along the Gulf Coast. The Bayou Petre phase, defined primarily for coastal areas of Louisiana to the east of the Barataria basin (primarily St. Bernard and Plaquemine parishes), is the apparent local manifestation of Mississippian culture, and appears to be closely related to the "Pensacola variant" defined for the Mobile delta area (Fuller and

Stowe 1982; Knight 1984). In contrast to the largely clay-tempered pastes of the Medora phase, the Pensacola-related ceramics of the Bayou Petre phase contain high percentages of shell-tempered ceramics, and include such types as Moundville Incised, Owens Punctated, Leland Incised, D'Olive Incised, Mound Place Incised, and Mississippi and Bell Plain. Possibly related to the Bayou Petre phase are collections recently reanalyzed by Chris Hayes from 16ST2 and other sites in St. Tammany Parish (personal communication). Decorative motifs in this collection are plainly influenced by Mississippian cultures to the east, and plainwares are largely varieties Bell and Mississippi Plain.

In the Petite Anse region, Brown (1982) notes the presence of Plaquemine culture types such as Anna Incised, Carter Engraved, Leland Incised, Maddox Engraved, and Plaquemine Brushed. There is a relative absence of shell tempered types until late in the sequence, when Brown believes that an influx of peoples from the Lower Mississippi Valley came to dominate the archaeological record here, possibly to exploit the salt resources in the area (Brown 1982). Shell-tempered types from Petite Anse phase sites are closely related to pottery commonly found in the central Lower Mississippi Valley.

In their study of sites from the Terrebonne marsh region to the south of the project area, Weinstein and Kelley (1992:378) found shell-tempered types mixed with Plaquemine pottery. However, these "Mississippian" sherds were largely in the minority, and the two site collections that were dominated by shell-tempered pottery may have been subject to sampling problems. A similar pattern was noted for shell midden sites in the Lower Atchafalaya Backwater. Nine of 36 Mississippi period components produced collections that were predominantly shell-tempered. However, assemblages from these sites were exceedingly small, and none of these sites produced a total larger than seven sherds. The authors concluded that Plaquemine culture was the dominant element in the region during the Mississippi period (Kelley et al. 2000:304).

Contemporary collections from the Barataria basin to the east also yielded large collections of Plaquemine types. However, excavations at the major mound sites of the times, such as Fleming (Holley and Demarcay 1977) and Sims (Davis 1984:222-223) revealed significant quantities of shell-tempered sherds. In fact, "Mississippian" types dominate the later portions of the assemblage at Sims (Kidder 1995:55).



At the nonmound Barataria phase Bayou Des Familles site, however, only three sherds (from the same vessel) of coarse Mississippi Plain *var. unspecified* (probably *var. Pomme D'Or*) were encountered from a collection of just over a thousand sherds (Wells, Jones and Kidder 1995).

The Medora and Barataria phases of southeastern Louisiana are succeeded by the "Delta Natchezan" phase (Phillips 1970:949-950; Weinstein et al 1978). This phase apparently represents a "return" of indigenous ceramic styles, represented by the presence of varieties of Fatherland Incised as well as continuities with previous Plaquemine and shell-tempered types. These assemblages are often associated with historic groups, such as the Ouacha, Bayougoula, Chawasha, and Chitimacha.

Like the Plaquemine-related phases of the Terrebonne and Barataria regions, the Mississippi period pottery from the current project area also presents a mix of shell- and clay-tempered types. Plaquemine types and varieties attributable to the early Mississippi period (1200 - 1350 A.D.) include Baytown Plain, *var. Addis*, Anna Incised, *vars. Anna and Australia*, Bell Plain *var. Greenville*, Buras Incised, *var. Buras*, Carter Engraved, Coleman Incised, L'eau Noire Incised, *var. Bayou Bourbe*, Plaquemine Brushed, *var. Plaquemine*, Hollyknowe Ridge Pinched, *var. Patmos*, Sanson Incised, and probably an unspecified variety of Leland Incised executed on a Baytown Plain (non-*Addis*) paste. Mazique Incised *var. Manchac* and Coles Creek Incised *var. Hardy* are Plaquemine varieties that overlap with the Coles Creek period. Several sherds that can best be described as *Addis* with the addition of small particles of bone probably date to this time period as well. While some sherds of Mississippi and Bell Plain date to this time period, it is not altogether certain what shell-tempered decorated varieties are contemporary with Medora pottery.

Middle to late Mississippi period (1350 - 1500 A.D.) collections in the study area include the additions of Leland Incised *vars. Foster* and *Williams*. Shell-tempered types become more common at this time in project area sites, and include sherds of Bell Plain, Owens Punctated, *var. McIlhenny*, Leland Incised, Barton Incised, Parkin Punctated, Mississippi Plain, and Winterville Incised. It should be noted that both Winterville Incised and Leland Incised were incorporated into Plaquemine repertoires further to the north (Williams and Brain 1983; Brown 1985; Brain 1988), so assignment of these types to

a cultural affiliation is a somewhat dubious undertaking.

Several sites produced sherds dating from the latest centuries of the aboriginal sequence, generally assignable to the "Delta Natchezan" phase (1500 - 1700 A.D.). These include sherds of Fatherland Incised, *vars. Stanton*, *Fatherland*, *Snyder's Bluff* and *unspecified*, as well as Maddox Engraved *var. Emerald*, Barataria Incised (the late, coastal equivalent of Maddox Engraved), and possibly Leland Incised *var. Williams* (executed on a clay- and shell-tempered paste). Plainwares include clay-tempered *Addis* Plain sherds as well as mixed clay- and shell-tempered wares such as Bell Plain *vars. St. Catherine* and *Greenville*. Shell-tempered minority types include Owens Punctated, *var. McIlhenny*, possibly Parkin Punctated, *var. Transylvania*, and possibly Leland Incised, *var. Deep Bayou*. Note that this assemblage differs little from the historic Chitimacha assemblages collected by Goodwin et al. 1985:212), lacking only Cracker Road Incised. Again, assignment of shell tempered types to Bayou Petre/Mississippian culture seems somewhat dubious, as Moundville and associated Gulf Coastal centers have declined by this point, and the descendants of Plaquemine culture in the Natchez Bluffs area among other places have absorbed several "Mississippian" traits.

There are no "pure" Mississippian culture components in the study area. No Mississippian "intrusion" has been noted in surrounding regions, and the physical proximity of Mississippian peoples is not a necessary requirement for the presence of shell tempering. The possibility remains that local practitioners of Plaquemine culture were in contact with Mississippian groups to the east, but this requires some examination of the Bayou Petre phase itself. Kidder (1995:55) has proposed that Bayou Petre may not exist as a distinct phase representing a foreign "Mississippian" enclave, but instead an intrusion of Mississippian ceramics and ideas from the Gulf Coast of Mississippi and Alabama. Davis (1984) suggests that Bayou Petre may result from diffusion of ideas along the Gulf Coast due to short-distance movements and shifting political alliances. Kidder (1995:55) also notes the proximity of the St. Bernard marshes to the coast of Mississippi, and believes that the proliferation of Mississippian designs on local pastes, such as Buras Incised, which incorporates Moundville Incised designs, also represents the spread of these Mississippian ideas. Leland Incised *vars. Russell* and *Williams* also reflect this trend, being executed on clay- and shell-and-clay-tempered pastes. Note

also that Weinstein (Weinstein and Kelley 1992:323, Kelley et al. 2000, this volume) has identified Leland Incised decoration on a non-*Addis* Baytown Plain paste. It is also important to remember that even Kniffen's Bayou Petre assemblages contained significant percentages of clay-tempered ceramics (1936; McIntyre 1958: Plate 13), and by the same token, minor quantities of shell-tempered wares were excavated from both Bayou Goula and Medora (Quimby 1951, 1957). Unfortunately, the archaeological record that would document the predecessors (or lack thereof) for the Bayou Petre phase peoples is not well known.

If the Bayou Petre phase does not represent an actual intrusion of peoples, then it is less likely that the presence of shell-tempered ceramics in the project area represents contact with actual Mississippian peoples. The most likely explanation for these "Mississippian" ceramic types is a diffusion of ceramic ideas west from the Alabama and Mississippi Gulf Coast via the Plaquemine and St. Bernard marshes, and down the Valley from the Yazoo Basin via the Red River Confluence and Natchez Bluffs Regions. The people living in the Upper Atchafalaya Backwater region can then be described as producing ceramics that were influenced partly by Mississippian developments to the east, but retain most of their local traditions which form part of the "pan-Lower Mississippi Valley" culture known as Plaquemine.

## **Historic Settlement**

### **1. Settlement Patterns**

**1a. Hypothesis:** Although earlier land grants were established during the Colonial period, it is not until the Early American period (1800 - 1865) that settlement of the study area began to increase significantly. Substantial numbers of sugar plantations were established in the area, initially along the high natural levees of the Mississippi River and False River, but later in the period they spread to the natural levees of the larger distributary systems. Small farms also spread along the distributary natural levees during this period, and camps continued to be present on small distributaries in the swamps.

**Assessment:** Early American components were identified at five archaeological sites within the present study area. Four of these (16IV1, 16IV7, 16PC36, 16PC37) were houses or other structures associated with sugar plantations located along the Fordoche distributary system (Figure 9-7). The other (16PC38)

was an historic scatter, probably formerly associated with a domestic sugar plantation structure on Bayou Maringouin. The sample survey recorded 10 sites that produced evidence of Early American period occupation, primarily sherds of pearlware and early whiteware. These sites are probably associated with Anglo-American sugar plantations that became increasingly common along Bayous Maringouin and Grosse Tete after 1830. Documentary research on specific properties will be required to identify the occupants of these sites.

Taken as a whole, the archaeological data from the study area appear to support the hypothesis of increasing settlement density during this period. Historical and previous site data indicate that the Fordoche system came to be occupied several decades later than the Mississippi and False River levees. The data on smaller sites away from the main levees of the Fordoche system are virtually nonexistent, and the survey data, restricted as they are to the Fordoche system levees, shed little light on the question of smaller farms. However, the McCollough map of 1859 certainly indicates the presence of many small holdings, occupying sections at the narrower, southern ends of the Fordoche system levees, and scattered between the larger holdings. These could certainly represent smaller farmers, but could also represent absentee landowners who leased their croplands to tenant farmers or other plantations.

**1b. Hypothesis:** After the Civil War many of the plantations and small farms located on the smaller distributary natural levees were abandoned due to increased flooding from the Atchafalaya River. Plantations continued to operate along the Mississippi River and False River, but these became larger and fewer in number during the early twentieth century. The number of sugar mills also decreased after 1900 as they were replaced by large, centralized factories.

Commercial cypress lumbering increased significantly after 1890 due primarily to the depletion of timber in the northeast and Great Lakes regions and the expansion of the railroads. It persisted until about 1930 by which time much of the timber had been cut. Sawmills and mill towns were established along the main railroad lines which followed the higher natural levees. Camps were established on small distributaries in the swamps or, later on quarterboats.

Communities spread along some smaller natural levees and along railroad lines. Some communi-

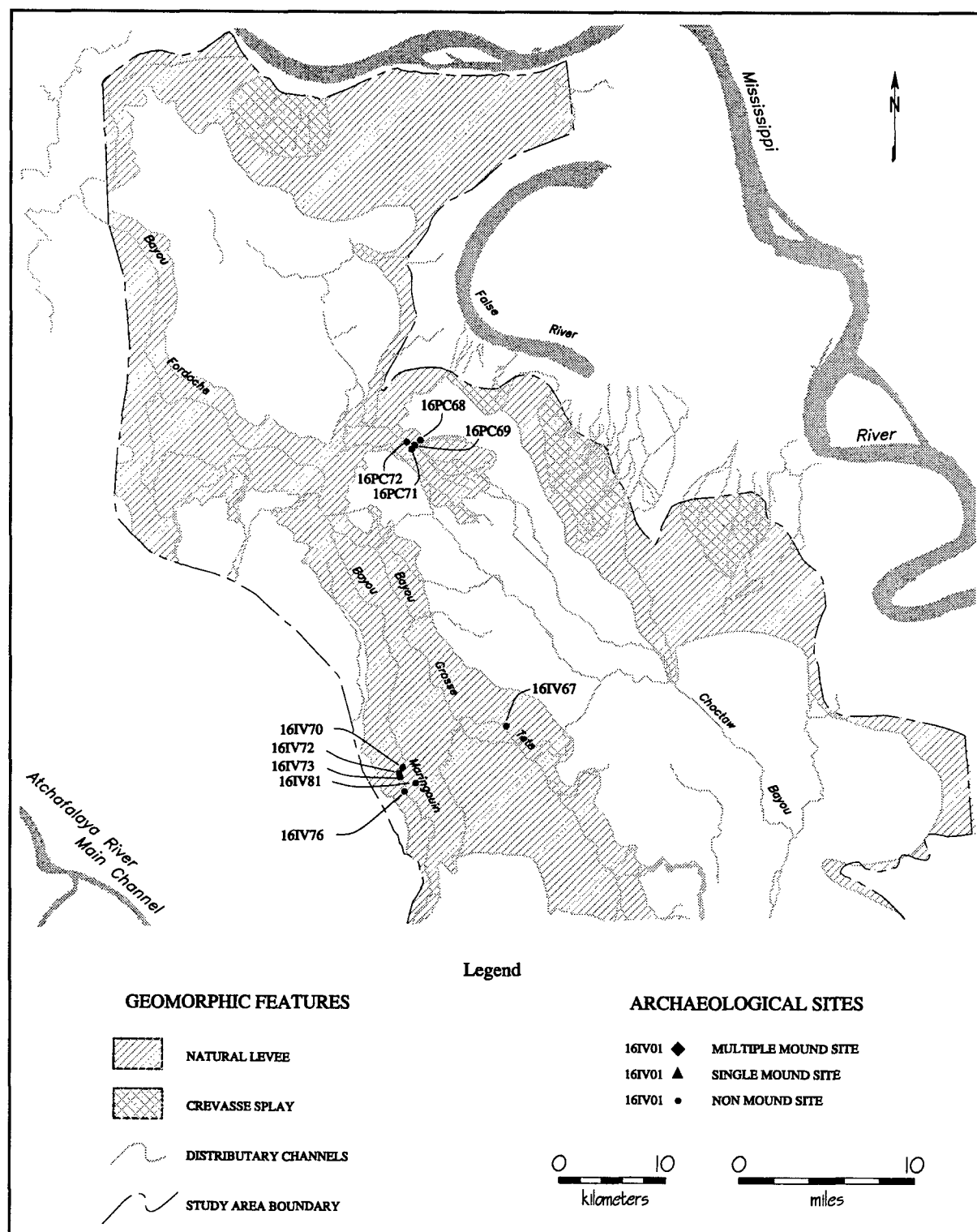


Figure 9-7. Early American period sites in the Upper Atchafalaya Backwater study area.

ties from the previous period, such as Grosse Tete, Maringouin, and Fordoche, developed into small towns because of their location at strategic points on railroad lines.

**Assessment:** Ten sites with occupations dating to the Post-bellum and Modern period were recorded in the study area prior to the present research (see Figure 3-1). All of those occurred along the Fordoche distributary between Morganza and the southern edge of the study area, and almost all of these sites represent houses or other structures on sugar plantations. The sample survey recorded 46 sites that produced evidence of Post-bellum and Modern period occupations, a 418 percent increase over the previous period (Figure 9-8). The indicators of occupation during this period were generally later varieties of whiteware, ironstone, slipped stonewares, later mold-made and machine-made bottles, and wire nails. Most of these sites appear to represent residences associated with sugar plantations or small landholdings. A single scatter of brick (16IV57) may represent an industrial function, or a sugar processing locality. In most of the areas surveyed site densities increased during this period, probably reflecting a general increase in population in the study area until the Great Depression.

The archaeological data from the sample survey emphasize the continued importance of sugar cultivation in the study area during this period. The abandonment of plantations located on the smaller distributary natural levees is not reflected in the sample survey data primarily because the areas most affected, along the western and southern edges of the study area, were not examined. However, this pattern is certainly suggested by historic maps and other documentary sources. For example, cotton agriculture on Bayou Alabama, just to the west of the study area, ceased to exist during the civil war, and attempts at agriculture were apparently abandoned after the war (Comeaux 1972:15; Gibson 1982:124). The brief period of commercial cypress lumbering is also not apparent in the sample survey data, again for reasons of survey location; however, in the Lower Atchafalaya Survey area, it was clearly reflected in the data from sawmills such as Good Land (16TR114) and Donner (16TR121) and their associated company towns (Hahn and Schwab 1998; Whelan and Pearson 1999). Lumbering was certainly a major industry at the turn of the century in the swamplands to the west and south of the Fordoche distributary system, and scars from narrow-gauge logging rail-

roads are still visible in aerial photographs (Castille et al. 1996:12-13).

Again, the sample survey data are not adequate to address questions on the growth of communities outside of the survey transects. The distribution of small tenant occupations north and south of communities such as Rosedale, Livonia, and Maringouin certainly suggests that the population of these towns and surrounding communities was much more extensive than in previous or succeeding periods. The largest of these communities are located at railroad junctions and bayou crossings, and have survived as towns into today, whereas other communities, such as Musson, Banks, Sparks, and Frogmore were either swallowed by the growth of other communities or have declined to the point of abandonment. Few communities sprung up on railroad lines away from the natural levees of the bayous, and fewer have survived into modern times.

**1c. Hypothesis:** Rehder (1971) identified three patterns among contemporary sugar plantations within the study area: a linear pattern along the Mississippi River, a "nodal-block" pattern along Bayou Lafourche, and a "bayou-block" pattern along the smaller streams south of Thibodaux. He attributed these patterns to a combination of physiographic and historical factors. These patterns should be reflected in the archaeological remains of plantations in the study area.

**Assessment:** Unfortunately, most of the archaeological data from the study area lack the detail needed to adequately address this question. Test excavations at sites associated with sugar plantations will be required to collect the data necessary to identify material correlates of Rehder's plantation types.

### *Summary*

The present study has augmented the archaeological record of the study area considerably, especially that of the Fordoche/Maringouin/Grosse Tete system. Forty-seven previously unrecorded sites were found in the sample survey, increasing the number of known sites in the project area by just over 300 percent. In addition, it has also summarized a substantial body existing archaeological data from the area. One of the more interesting findings of the study was the suggestion that prehistoric settlement was concentrated on distributary channels well away from the high natural levees of the Mississippi River and its abandoned channels. This is very similar to

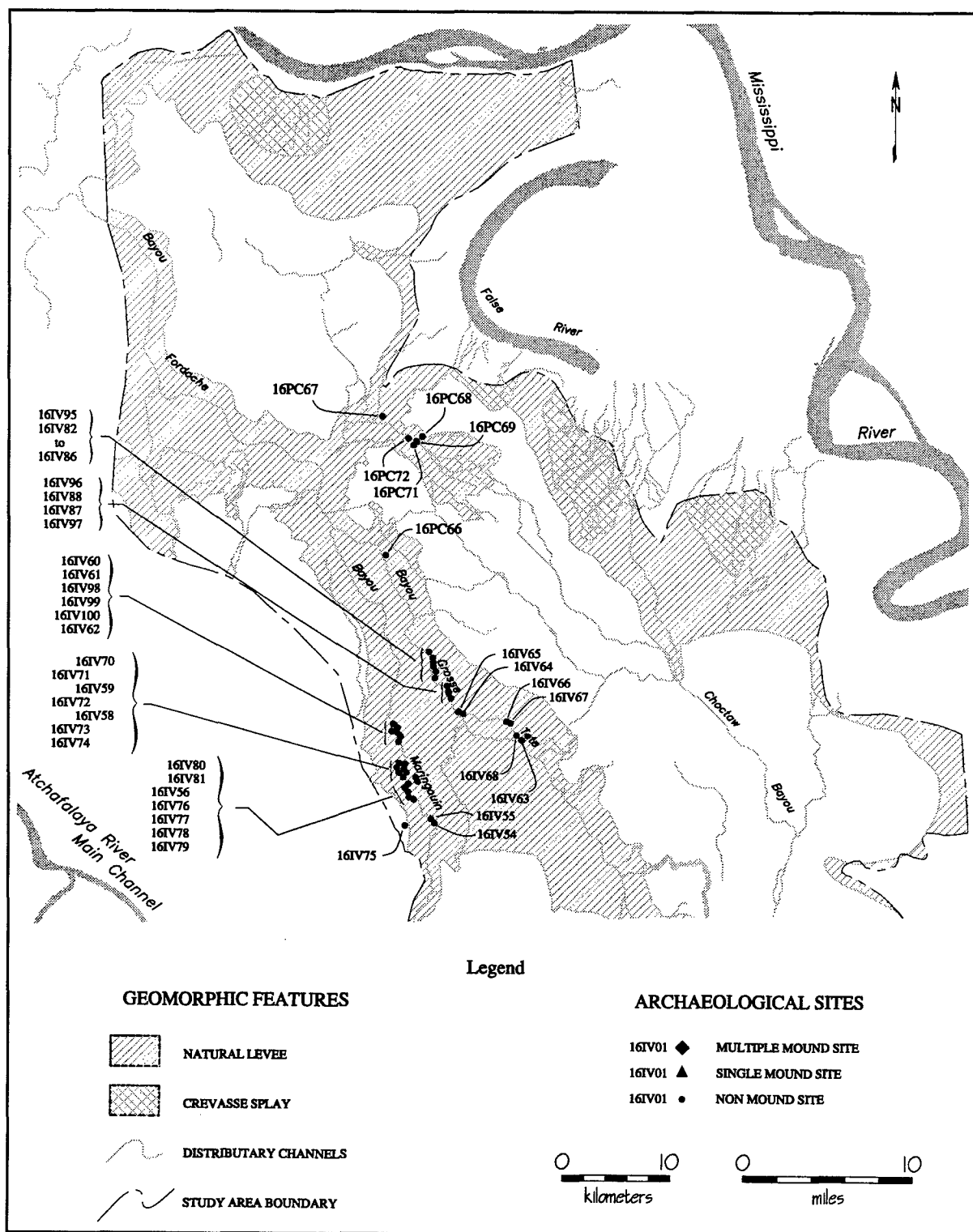


Figure 9-8. Ante-bellum and Industrial period sites in the Upper Atchafalaya Backwater study area.

the findings of the preceding Lower Backwater Survey, and also compares favorably to Gibson's (1978:3) data from the middle portion of the trunk channel of the Teche complex. Gibson attributed this pattern to the higher productivity of surrounding wetlands and the persistence of a hunting-and-gathering lifestyle. To this, a socio-political explanation may also be added, in that distance from the major routes of communication and transportation would have also offered some protection from enemies. Excavated data are necessary to further address these questions, specifically data focusing on subsistence and political organization.

Additionally, data uncovered by the current study suggest a complex settlement pattern that can be divided into three or four tiers during late Coles Creek and Mississippi period times. Sites with multiple mounds, such as Livonia (16PC1) and Thom (16PC6), [and possibly the political entity represented by the Rosedale complex (16IV1, 16IV16, and 16IV18)] sit at the top of this hierarchy, representing the seats of regional political, social and religious power for a large region. Smaller centers, perhaps with a secondary administrative function, are represented by single-mound sites such as the Church Mound (16IV9) and Mays Place Camp (16IV7); alternatively, these may represent the political centers of smaller, but independent political entities. Large nonmound sites such as Slacks (16IV18), Woodhenge (16PC67), and Skeeter Bayou (16IV70) stand apart from smaller nonmound sites

such as Sunnyside No. 2 (16IV83), Alcatraz (16PC70) in terms of both size and artifact density. These large sites, located at minor stream junctions, probably represent permanent villages, whereas the smallest prehistoric sites may either represent hamlets or seasonally occupied camps. This suggests that fairly complex polities were in place along the upper to middle portions of the Fordoche distributary system during the Mississippi period.

The density of both historic and prehistoric sites along these bayous was probably the biggest surprise, given the numbers of previously recorded sites in the area. This probably reflects both the population density in prehistoric times and at the beginning of the twentieth century, as well as the paucity of systematically collected data before the current study. The density of prehistoric sites on Bayous Grosse Tete and Maringouin suggests that populations in the region were among the highest in the eastern Atchafalaya and Lafourche delta regions. Similarly, historic occupations here represent some of the highest densities of occupation in these same regions during the early twentieth century. While it is likely that the front side of the LaFourche and Teche trunk channel levees may have held higher population densities during these times, systematically-gathered data from these areas is simply not available at this time. It is clear, however, that these trunk channels do not support late prehistoric populations as dense as found on the smaller distributaries.



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